



Judge Ruth Closs

March 19, 1931 - July 31, 2016

Judge Ruth (Corley) Closs, 85, of Madisonville, TX (lovingly referred to her family as “Booter”); passed away on Sunday; July 31, 2016 in Huntsville. A celebration of her life is scheduled for Wednesday at 10AM at The First United Methodist Church in Madisonville with Bro. Lanier Stevens officiating. The burial will follow at Allphin Cemetery in Madisonville. A visitation is scheduled for Tuesday from 5-7PM at Day Funeral Home Chapel in Madisonville.

Ruth Corley was born on March 19, 1931 in Elwood, TX to Sherman and Mary (Marsh) Corley and was the youngest of five children. She graduated from Madisonville High School and graduated with a master’s degree in education from Sam Houston Teacher’s College which is now known as Sam Houston State University. While at Sam Houston, Ruth met and married a United States Marine, James Truman (JT) Closs. They shared a love and marriage that lasted fifty years until he was called home to the Lord in 2000.

Soon after marriage, the newly married couple were stationed at Camp La June in North Carolina, and while stationed there, they welcomed their only daughter, Cathy Darlene into the world on December 20, 1953. Six weeks later, they moved back to Texas and called Baytown their home for the next few years, and it was here where Ruth began her teaching career which lasted thirty-seven years.

The family decided Madisonville was calling, and they moved home. Ruth taught for MCISD for thirty-one years where she shared her passion of history, teaching, and cherishing her students before retiring.

Retirement wasn't for Ruth, and soon after, she held the office of City Judge and Justice of the Peace for the next sixteen years. She was a firm believer in second chances and practiced such while on the bench. While in office, Judge Closs built a bond and love for The Madisonville Police Department and they became her "boys" while also working closely with The Madisonville Sheriff's Departments and the Madisonville Fire Department. After turning 80, she retired on June 1, 2011 and spent the remainder of her life at home enjoying her family.

Ruth was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; and her siblings, Larry Corley, Wilborn Corley, Winifred Corley Grivich, and Rose Corley Peck. She is survived by her daughter, Cathy Closs Parker and her husband Clyde Parker, Jr.; her grandchildren, Mindy Parker Crouch and her husband Trant, Amie Parker Scott and her husband Dwain, and Jameson "Bud" Parker and his wife Samantha; several great grandchildren; and many nephews and nieces.

Special thanks to the staff at Crestview for all their care and support. Special thanks to Betty Humphrey & Kathy Simpson for their loving care for "Booter".

Serving as pallbearers are: Clyde Parker, Jameson "Bud" Parker, Trant Crouch, Dwain Scott, Pat Grivich, and Marshall Clouser. Serving as honorary pallbearers are: Curtis Banks, Chief George Sweetin, Ivan Linebaugh, Larry Peck, Sonny Knight, and John Hardy.

Cemetery Details

Allphin Cemetery

Madisonville, TX

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 2. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Day Funeral Home
514 E Main St
Madisonville, TX 77864
(936) 348-2621
day.fh@yahoo.com
<https://www.dayfuneralhome.net>

Service

AUG 3. 10:00 AM (CT)

First United Methodist Church
Madisonville, TX

Tribute Wall

MG

“ *Mary Green lit a candle in memory of Judge Ruth Closs*



Mary Green - August 02, 2016 at 08:55 PM

MF

“ *Martha & Bill Fautheree lit a candle in memory of Judge Ruth Closs*



Martha & Bill Fautheree - August 02, 2016 at 05:58 PM

 Dora Jensen

“ *I loved her love for me specifically as her student, as a neighbor, as a friend. My mother & 2 sisters would always Christmas carol to her in her home and we would hear how my Dad, John Dean Junior would go Christmas caroling with her & friends! You have such a treasured place in my heart, Ruth Closs!*

Dora Jensen - August 02, 2016 at 05:30 PM

EB

“ Elizabeth B. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Judge Ruth Closs.



Elizabeth B. - August 02, 2016 at 01:49 PM

PB

“ Penny Barker lit a candle in memory of Judge Ruth Closs



Penny Barker - August 02, 2016 at 12:49 PM

PB

“ Penny Barker lit a candle in memory of Judge Ruth Closs



Penny Barker - August 02, 2016 at 12:48 PM

 Claudia Tucker

“ Claudia Tucker lit a candle in memory of Judge Ruth Closs



Claudia Tucker - August 02, 2016 at 10:32 AM



Claudia Tucker

I adored her....beautiful lady, such a kind soul. I have many fond memories of her....

Claudia Tucker - August 02, 2016 at 10:40 AM

KL

“ *KEITH AND GWEN LOWRANCE lit a candle in memory of Judge Ruth Closs*



KEITH AND GWEN LOWRANCE - August 02, 2016 at 07:50 AM

MH

“ *Melissa Hailey lit a candle in memory of Judge Ruth Closs*



Melissa Hailey - August 02, 2016 at 07:41 AM

MH

“ *Melissa Hailey lit a candle in memory of Judge Ruth Closs*



Melissa Hailey - August 02, 2016 at 07:40 AM

AC

“ *Angela Washington Clifton lit a candle in memory of Judge Ruth Closs*



Angela Washington Clifton - August 02, 2016 at 06:52 AM

AD

“ *Sorry to hear the sad news. Sending my condolences to your friends and family*



Amanda Donaho - August 02, 2016 at 03:30 AM

HR

“ *Heather Reese lit a candle in memory of Judge Ruth Closs*



Heather Reese - August 02, 2016 at 12:42 AM


Barbara
Turner

“ *Barbara Turner lit a candle in memory of Judge Ruth Closs*



Barbara Turner - August 01, 2016 at 10:23 PM



“ *Michaela Eaton Smith lit a candle in memory of Judge Ruth Closs*



Michaela Eaton Smith - August 01, 2016 at 10:16 PM



“ *Mary K. Barrett lit a candle in memory of Judge Ruth Closs*



Mary K. Barrett - August 01, 2016 at 10:04 PM



“ *Timmy & Shewana Winn lit a candle in memory of Judge Ruth Closs*



Timmy & Shewana Winn - August 01, 2016 at 09:58 PM



“ *Timmy & Shewana Winn sent a virtual gift in memory of Judge Ruth Closs*



Timmy & Shewana Winn - August 01, 2016 at 09:54 PM

LW

“ Mrs Closs was my third grade teacher and again in fifth grade. I'll never forget her red glass Apple paper weight and her famous paddle, The Babe Ruth. She was an amazing lady and I was lucky to have known her. Thinking of you Cathy. Sincerely Lisa Webb

lisa webb - August 01, 2016 at 09:42 PM



“ Linda Williams lit a candle in memory of Judge Ruth Closs



Linda Williams - August 01, 2016 at 09:39 PM

KH

“ Karen Moore Holdridge lit a candle in memory of Judge Ruth Closs



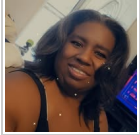
Karen Moore Holdridge - August 01, 2016 at 08:06 PM

YP

“ Yvonne Poe lit a candle in memory of Judge Ruth Closs



Yvonne Poe - August 01, 2016 at 07:57 PM



“ *Mechelle Johnson lit a candle in memory of Judge Ruth Closs*



Mechelle Johnson - August 01, 2016 at 07:44 PM



“ *Jackie Johnson sent a virtual gift in memory of Judge Ruth Closs*



Jackie Johnson - August 01, 2016 at 07:41 PM



“ *Judge Ruth was a woman of distinction, character, grace and strong in her faith. She will be truly missed by everyone who had the pleasure of meeting / knowing her, even the ones that came before her in the judicial capacity, she was fair to all. I had the honor of knowing her and her family, she was an inspiration to me and she always had a moment to say Hello, How are you doing? A captivating woman with style!!!*
Now , You have been blessed to be in HIS court.
Rest with the Father, as He wraps His arms around you and comforts your loved ones.
Your friend,
Sharon Phelps

Sharon Phelps - August 01, 2016 at 06:31 PM

SG

“ *Sandy Gill lit a candle in memory of Judge Ruth Closs*



sandy gill - August 01, 2016 at 05:35 PM

JB

“ *R.I.P. AND GOD BLESS*



Joan Byrd - August 01, 2016 at 04:23 PM

MR

“ *Melissa Dyer Raupp lit a candle in memory of Judge Ruth Closs*



Melissa Dyer Raupp - August 01, 2016 at 03:43 PM

LS

“ On the last day of her term as Justice of the Peace, Judge Closs and I had a call for her in Shannon Estates. It had been raining for weeks and the roads in the area were in terrible shape. Judge Closs called me and stated she wasn't able to drive out to the scene in her vehicle due to the roads and could she ride with me in my patrol unit. I picked her up and we headed out to the scene. As we approached the area, I told her it would be very rough travel. She tightened up her seatbelt, grabbed ahold of the armrest and said, lets go. During the entire trip she only said one thing; "didn't we just pass that mailbox?" I said yes mam we did, as we were slipping, sliding and spinning all over the road. We finally arrived on scene and she took care of business. As we came back out just about the same way we went in she commented, " I never expected to go mudding on my last day in office." She was a wonderful upbeat lady that took everything in stride and I will miss her. She was an exceptional lady and woman. I am so glad to have had the chance to know her.

Larry S. Shiver
Madison County Sheriff's Office

Larry S. Shiver - August 01, 2016 at 03:33 PM

SC

“ Shawnique Burns Cooper lit a candle in memory of Judge Ruth Closs



Shawnique Burns Cooper - August 01, 2016 at 03:27 PM

HK

“ Helen Kovacs lit a candle in memory of Judge Ruth Closs



Helen Kovacs - August 01, 2016 at 02:32 PM

AG

“ Oh, no!!!! I put this on everything, i passed her place up by the lake, twice, on Saturday and was like , I should stop by and say, hi, to her" but i kept going. I love that woman!!! She was always so sweet to me. I remember she caught me cheating on a test. She got so mad at me and walked me out in the hallway. I knew i was gonna get in some BiG trouble. As soon as she closed the door and was alone with me in the hallway, she looked in my eyes and asked so nicely, "sweetheart, what it going on?" I told her that i just forgot about the test and did not study. So, she hugged me and said, "im gonna give you a chance to study and retake the test tomorrow after school. You are one of my best students and i dont want to see you fail. But i can't promise you i will do this, again"



She even let me,completely off of one ticket,and the second ticket, she allowed me to do community service with Gal cause i didn't have money to pay it.

Looord , tears were falling as i typed that. I feel some type of way for not giving her her flowers while she was here. I waited a little too late. May you rest in peace, Mrs. Closs. You are loved by so many



Aleasha Gomez-Armstrong - August 01, 2016 at 02:00 PM

MM

“ *Marie Merchant lit a candle in memory of Judge Ruth Closs*



marie merchant - August 01, 2016 at 01:52 PM

MM

“ *Wow!!! Mrs.Closs was the nicest person I have ever met!!! She was one of my favorite Jr. High School teacher...*

marie merchant - August 01, 2016 at 01:51 PM

CW

“ *Colvin And Sandra Walker lit a candle in memory of Judge Ruth Closs*



Colvin and Sandra Walker - August 01, 2016 at 12:47 PM



Rhenae Gonzalez

“ *One of my favorite teachers. You will be missed Mrs. Closs.*



Rhenae Gonzalez - August 01, 2016 at 12:23 PM



“ Rhonda Kilgore lit a candle in memory of Judge Ruth Closs



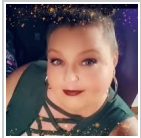
Rhonda Kilgore - August 01, 2016 at 12:15 PM



“ Rhonda Kilgore Mccarver lit a candle in memory of Judge Ruth Closs



Rhonda Kilgore Mccarver - August 01, 2016 at 12:13 PM



“ Dawn Cobb lit a candle in memory of Judge Ruth Closs



Dawn Cobb - August 01, 2016 at 12:12 PM



“ Marisa Drake lit a candle in memory of Judge Ruth Closs



Marisa Drake - August 01, 2016 at 12:07 PM

BM

“ *Ruth Closs was more than just a great teacher and judge, she was a Madisonville treasure. You would be hard pressed to find a greater example of a life that touched so many in such a positive and affirming way. RIP, Mrs. Closs.*

Brendan Mikeska - August 01, 2016 at 11:57 AM

SG

“ *Such a beautiful lady, inside and out- she will be remembered fondly by all who knew her, my heart goes out to you Kathy and all her devoted family.* 🙏



sue Gibson - August 01, 2016 at 11:46 AM

MM

“ *Margaret & Lynne Mosley lit a candle in memory of Judge Ruth Closs*



Margaret & Lynne Mosley - August 01, 2016 at 11:45 AM

MA

Lynne and I both think Ruth was a very special lady! She will be missed.

Margaret - August 01, 2016 at 11:48 AM

DC

Ruth was a very special to us, Donnie & Ann Colwell

Donnie and Ann Colwell - August 01, 2016 at 11:54 AM

SB

“ *thoughts and prayers are with the family--stan baugh*

stan baugh - August 01, 2016 at 11:37 AM