



Donald Ruben Sawyers, Sr.

September 24, 1941 - February 14, 2025

Ruben D. Sawyers, lovingly known as "Buzz," passed away peacefully on February 14, 2025, at the age of 83 in Odessa, Texas. Though his journey on this earth has come to an end, his legacy of hard work, love, and devotion will live on in the hearts of all who knew him.

Born on September 24, 1941, in Corbin, Kentucky, to the late George and Julia (Logan) Sawyers, Buzz grew up with a resilience shaped by life's challenges. Despite having to leave school in the sixth grade, he refused to let circumstances define him. At just 15 years old, he entered the military, a testament to his unwavering determination and strength of character.

The greatest love of his life was his beloved wife, Gertie (Grove) Sawyers, with whom he shared 59 and a half years of steadfast love and companionship. Their story was unique-no first date, just a commitment that lasted a lifetime. He lovingly called her his "Teenage Queen," a title he honored by inscribing it on her headstone. Together, they built a beautiful life filled with faith, hard work, and devotion to family.

Buzz was a man of integrity, known for his sharp mind, strong will, and an unmatched work ethic. His career in the oil and gas industry spanned decades, beginning in the mid-1960s and continuing until his well-earned retirement in 2015. A true expert in Superior Engines, there wasn't a machine

he couldn't bring back to life. He was the man you called when no one else could get the job done. More than that, he was a mentor, sharing his knowledge and training many young men in the field, ensuring his skills and wisdom would continue to be passed down.

Family was at the heart of everything Buzz did. He was a father who led by example, raising his four sons with discipline, love, and the firm belief in the value of education-ensuring that each one graduated high school, an opportunity he never had himself. His pride in his family was boundless, and the home he and Gertie created was filled with warmth, laughter, and the kind of memories that last a lifetime.

He is now reunited in heaven with his beloved wife, Gertie, their son, Bobby Joe, daughter-in-law, Toni F. Sawyers (wife of George Sawyers), and great-granddaughter, Emily Ryan Hopkins. He is also preceded in death by his parents, his brothers Earnest, Leslie "Buck," Damon and Delman (Shorty and Pig), and Tommy, as well as his sisters Jackie, Louise, and Rosalee.

Left to cherish his memory are his sons: Ruben D. Sawyers Jr. (Laura), George G. Sawyers, and Jimmy D. Sawyers (Denise), all of Odessa, TX. He also leaves behind his grandchildren: Steven, Stephiane, Raychel, Kurtis, Taylor, Dusten, Gordon, and Zane; and his great-grandchildren: Samantha, Skylar, Alex, Sara, Annie, Lexi, Cayson, Ellie, Isabella, Ashley, Jonathan, Krystal, Bethany, and Christopher.

Buzz was a man of great character, a devoted husband, a loving father, a skilled worker, and a trusted friend. His presence will be deeply missed, but his spirit will remain alive in the countless lives he touched.

A viewing will be held on Thursday, February 20, 2025, from 4:00 - 8:00 PM at American Heritage Funeral Home. His funeral service will take place on Friday, February 21, 2025, at 6:00 PM at American Heritage Funeral Home.

He will be laid to rest next to his beloved Gertie in Corbin, Kentucky, within a mile of where they both grew up-where life comes full circle in the same area their journey began and where they now rest in peace, together again, forever.

As we say goodbye, we take comfort in knowing that Buzz is now at peace, reunited with the love of his life, watching over the family he cherished so deeply. His was a life well-lived, and his memory will forever be a guiding light for those who loved him.

Previous Events

Viewing

FEB **20**. 4:00 PM (CT)

American Heritage Funeral Home
4100 N FM 1788
Midland, TX 79707
(432) 563-9767
info@thehealingstartshere.com
<https://thehealingstartshere.com>

Funeral Service

FEB **21**. 6:00 PM (CT)

American Heritage Funeral Home
4100 N FM 1788
Midland, TX 79707
(432) 563-9767
info@thehealingstartshere.com
<https://thehealingstartshere.com>

Tribute Wall



“ I'm going to miss your phone calls. Your call was so important to me. Love you Uncle Ruben I'll see you again someday.

Shirley Geist - February 20, 2025 at 01:43 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Donald Ruben Sawyers, Sr..

February 19, 2025 at 06:34 PM



“ Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Donald Ruben Sawyers, Sr..



February 19, 2025 at 06:34 PM



“ 23 files added to the tribute wall



ruben sawyers - February 19, 2025 at 05:29 PM

RS

“ Dad I will miss you more than you can imagine. All my life you have taught me to be who i am and made me the man I am today. You treated us 4 boys the same and it shows because we all stood on are on feet as one . We are taking you bake home to be with Mom so you both can be at peace and no that we fullfill our promise to get you back together with Mom at all cost. Please rest in peace and in joy being back with Mom and you to having fun together again you will never feel pain again and will never be sick again , your health has been restored for you both. enjoy your time together until we come to see you in the future. I will forever hold you to the highest respect and no one can take that away. I love you from the bottom of my heart always. love Donald.



ruben sawyers - February 19, 2025 at 05:26 PM