



Samuel Dwight Canup

May 23, 1947 - May 28, 2020

Samuel Dwight Canup passed away at home peacefully on May 28th after a battle with cancer. A Rockwall, Texas native and longtime resident of Dallas and Uncertain, Texas, Sam served as Mayor of the City of Uncertain for 12 years. He also had a career as an field engineer in Dallas. Recently, Sam and his spouse Randi were the proprietors of Caddo Grocery, Hoot n Holler guest cottage and Lafitte's Landing guest cottages at Caddo Lake.

Born May 23, 1947 to Eloise Collins Canup and A.J. Canup, Jr. Sam grew up in Rockwall and was a 1965 graduate of Rockwall High School. He served in the U.S. Air National Guard, attended Arlington State College, and went on to hold a 25-year career with IBM, from which he retired in 1994.

Sam has been married to Randi Doyle since 1991, and they moved from Dallas to Uncertain in 1994. Sam was married to Suzanne Peoples from 1970 to 1979.

Sam was elected Mayor of the City of Uncertain in 2005 and served until 2017. As Mayor, Sam promoted Caddo Lake tourism, worked to sustain the lake's fragile ecosystem, assisted multiple flood relief operations and advocated on behalf of the citizens of the city. Sam joined a task force of Texas city mayors, including Houston and Dallas, aimed at halting plans to build 18 coal-fired power plants. Pointing to the negative impact emissions would have had on Caddo Lake and Uncertain, the group succeeded and the proposed plants were never built.

Sam Canup is preceded in death by his parents, Eloise and A.J. Canup, Jr. and his grandparents, Georgia and Andrew Jackson Canup, all of Rockwall County.

He is survived by his spouse Randi G. Doyle of Dallas and his son and stepchildren, Teresa Wyatt Vanderenden and spouse Hans Vanderenden of Dallas, James Canup of Austin, John Spargo and spouse Erica Husser of Spring Mills, Pennsylvania, and James Spargo and partner Sonya Min of Portland, Oregon. Randi and Sam have 5 grandchildren,

Roan Spargo, Ava Vanderenden, Andre Vanderenden, Quinn Spargo and Sean Spargo.

Sam's immediate family is grateful for sister-in-law Jerre Merchant and cousins Patty and David Canup for helping during Sam's illness. Family members are especially thankful for the kindness and friendship of Dottie Carter, Timothy MacLarty, Bryan Barnes, Sara Smith, Narcissa, and Hap Channell, the team at Texas Oncology - Longview, Heart's Way Hospice nurses and staff, and the people of Uncertain and Caddo Lake.

A celebration of Sam's life will be held at 5:00 pm on Saturday, July 18, 2020, at Rockwall Caddo Lake Club, Taylor Island, Uncertain, TX, 75661. At 6:00 pm there will be a fish fry or BBQ dinner. We will be set up on the lawn for maximum coronavirus safety and distance as needed. It will likely be hot and humid; please dress very comfortably or come as you are. You are invited to wear a pair of bib overalls in honor of my dad.

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/gptNs7dFe2oE79867>

It is the most beautiful, most authentic spot on the lake, dad's favorite, and a Canup family place for 5 or 6 generations now.

More details coming soon.

Also, at a much later date, once everyone feels safe to travel and fly, we will plan another memorial gathering in Rockwall for the interment of dad's ashes in the old city cemetery.

If you are planning to come from out of town and would like to extend your stay, the following accommodations are recommended.

<https://theexcelsiorhouse.com/>

The oldest hotel in Texas, in Jefferson

<http://www.spatterdock.com/>

Taylor Island Cottages

<http://shadygladeresort.com>

Cottages, café, and marina

<https://cityofuncertain.com/lodging/>

A list of lodging in City of Uncertain

Memorial contributions may be given to the cancer charity of one's choice or to the Greater Caddo Lake Association of Texas (www.gclaoftx.org).

Comments



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November 14, 2020 at 03:52 AM



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November 14, 2020 at 02:57 AM



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November 14, 2020 at 02:52 AM



“ The Caddo Lake Institute is grateful for all the contributions Sam made to Caddo lake. He left a lasting legacy for generations to enjoy. My condolences to his family and friends.

Laura-Ashley Overdyke - June 16, 2020 at 05:30 PM



“ Sam and I shared being the IBM Field Engineer assigned to the First National Bank account in Dallas. I loved working with Sam, a true friend, a really super nice guy. So sorry to hear of his passing.

Bill Harris

William Harris - June 01, 2020 at 12:57 PM



“ I worked with Sam as an IBM Field Engineer in the Dallas Branch Office! Sam always acted the country hick, but he was one of the best computer technicians that I have ever known! I remember him driving that big old Cadillac loaded with metal duck work, destined to install in an older house he purchased!

Ted Nolan - June 01, 2020 at 09:40 AM



“ Thank you for your guidance and kindness. You are forever missed in how you helped me learn and grow as an engineer.

Jim S. Hall - June 01, 2020 at 08:38 AM



“ Sam was my brother-in-law when he was married to my sister, Suzanne Peoples. After I married Jack Smith in '73, they were our best friends! We'd go to Sam's family place on Caddo Lake, in Uncertain, TX; fish, sleep inside screened-in porches. We'd play poker & dominoes in Uncertain, Rockwall & Dallas, especially after Jamie, James Canup, was born. So much fun! Sam would say, now Cino, you may need another shot of tequila before you make this bet; I'd agree, take a shot & WIN! It's like it gave me confidence & Sam would just cackle! We sure had some great times! RIP dear Sam.

Cindy Bennett - May 31, 2020 at 07:01 PM