



## Virgil Gunter

October 29, 1925 - June 17, 2016

Virgil was born October 29, 1925, Brownwood, TX. He soared to Heaven June 17, 2016, at 3:15pm in his home surrounded by his immediate family. He was preceded in death by his son: Robert Wesley Gunter (1987). He is survived by his sweetheart of 74 years: Bobbie Jean Wilcoxson Gunter; his daughter: Virginia Andrews and husband Clifford; son: Marcus Gunter and wife Dana; grandchildren: Michael Thomas, Jill Bryan, Lauri Harvey, Robert Thomas, Garry Johnson, Shannon Sanchez, Jason Johnson, Sy Gunter, Lana Ward and Shelley Gunter; great grandchildren: Jordan Thomas, Benjamin Thomas, Christopher Thomas, Nicholas Gardiner, Britni Gardiner Butts, Kati Bryan, Derek Hendrix, Alexander Lyytinen, Grace Lyytinen, Amanda Willard, Zachary Thomas, Grant Johnson, Grace Johnson, Mercedes Sanchez, Diego Sanchez, Alonso Sanchez, Kamree Gunter, Khortlyn Gunter, Allison Gunter, Sebastian Gunter, Baby Boy Gunter, Matthew Scarborough and Megan Trinidad; and great-great grandchildren: Harper Butts, Isabella Hendrix, Finn Hendrix, Jackson Lyytinen, Jett Lyytinen, Jenika Willard, Jade Willard, Kaden Scarborough, Kennedi Scarborough and Ivan Trinidad.

Virgil was born in Brownwood, out in West Texas. His father, John Wesley Gunter, and mother, Rebecca Mae (Robertson) Gunter, moved to Dallas when Virgil was nine years of age, so his dad could work at the State Fair as they were preparing for the Texas Centennial. From the time he came to Dallas until his health forced the closing of his 58 plus year car business, Virgil was always working. He had paper routes, sold coke bottles, drove a lumber truck when he was 14, drove a taxi cab and many other odd jobs. He joined the United States Navy when he was 18 and served in the Pacific during World War II. Virgil watched the American flag being raised on Iwo Jima from the back of his ship. After returning from the Navy, he always had a second job. For example he worked delivering furniture but had a peanut route on the side. While working for Rick furniture company, Virgil met two firemen that were painting the warehouse – all firemen had a second job. He called Bobbie and wanted to know could they take a \$10.00 a week decrease in pay so he could join the Dallas Fire Department. They did take the cut in pay and he joined the fire department in 1953. From there, his second job became an air conditioner installation business. But Virgil's true calling was the "car business." He bought

and sold a few cars and finally got his Master Dealer license in 1957. So Virgil Gunter Auto Sales was his second job until he retired from the Dallas Fire Department in 1975. His car lot was at the same location with the same phone number for over 58 years, which is unheard of in this day and age. Had Virgil not had some health issues during the last 18 months, he would surely still be running his car lot.

Virgil was a true Native son of Texas; bigger than life in his western wear from his custom boots to his Silver Belly hat. His favorite saying was “I just love living,” and the second one was, “You can’t control people.” The number of lives Virgil touched during his 90 years are innumerable. There are too many stories to tell. He was always available to help folks and he was a neighborhood fixture on Barry Ave. To those that knew him, Virgil was an “institution.” He will be sorely missed by family and friends.

# Events

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**JUL Memorial Service 04:00PM**

**2**  
Rest Haven - Rockwall Location  
2500 State Highway 66 East, Rockwall, TX, US, 75087

# Comments

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“ Pop Pop.

A few days ago you would have celebrated your earthly birthday. We would sit and talk for hours. I miss you so much and know you and Big Momma and Big Daddy and all my other family are doing just fine. They don't make men like you any more so I sure will be glad to see you again one day. You made a difference in many peoples lives. Nobody takes care of South Dallas like you did. Until I see you again, I love you, Grandpa Virgil. You made your family proud!

Lynda Jill - November 01, 2018 at 08:01 PM



“ Dad, no words can express how much we miss you. But knowing one day we will all be together again, makes the 'missing you' bearable. □

virginia Gunter andrews - April 27 at 03:27 PM

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“ Wow, if anyone deserved a long happy life, it was Virgil! I was 19 years old, 41 years ago, when he became the sponsor of Gunter Women's Softball team. Mr. Gunter had the persona of a classic favorite uncle. When I would stop by the car lot, he would give me the opportunity to earn a little extra money to run errands for him. He was so generous, but instead of \$\$ I would opt for the chance to run the errands in a little convertible Mercedes! He knew that the little pleasures were the best. He had the most wonderful smile and the heavens will shine even brighter now that he has arrived!

Shayne Marhofer (whittle) - June 29, 2016 at 11:50 AM

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“ Mr.Gunter,

My sweet sweet hunny bun! Im so glad I got to meet you for the short time that I did. Your smile would light of the room. I will miss the times when I would stop by to see how your doing and you would say fine my sunshine ! God has gained a special angel! So spread your wings, you will be missed!

Your friend  
Jalisa

Ja'Lisa Starling - June 28, 2016 at 09:23 PM

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“ Mr.Gunter

Such a sweet, loving and kind man. The few months I got to see you at work were always great ! Your smile and you saying that's my girl when I pop in to visit you! You will be missed! Now you can spread your wings with Jesus! Miss you.

Your friend  
Ja'Lisa

**Jalisa** - June 28, 2016 at 09:19 PM