



## Clayton Upton Lindsey

September 21, 1919 - July 12, 2013

Clayton Upton Lindsey was born on September 21, 1919 in Wilson, Oklahoma to Emmett Eskiel Lindsey and Safrona Caldona "Dona" (Williams) Lindsey, and entered eternal life July 12, 2013 at the age of 93. His father and mother were people of simple means. His father eaked out a living as a farmer who also worked teaming in the oilfields, digging ditches, chopping wood or whatever he could to support their large family. Clayton was the second of eight children who survived infancy.

It was a difficult start in life, and Clayton almost died at the age of six of a ruptured appendix. Clayton has shared many stories of his childhood and young adulthood, some of which depict his sincere desire to seek out a better life. He was blessed, however, with parents who taught him by word and deed to work hard, be honest, be generous and be humble. He learned those lessons well.

As a teenager, Clayton worked in the Civilian Conservation Corp. During the Great Depression, he hopped freight trains traveling all over the United States trying to follow harvests in order to get work. He later traveled to California and got a steady job, but was promptly inducted into the U.S. Army at the start of World War II. He was a member of what was called the "Amphibious Engineers", who were the first to land on the beaches to make the way for the incoming troops. He was in England first; then, participated in beach landings

in North Africa, Cicely, Italy and on Utah Beach on D-Day. He also was in Belgium and Germany.

After returning from the war, Clayton returned to Oklahoma and home. He then met the love of his life, Camilla Grace Norton. They married on November 8, 1947 in Healdton, Oklahoma. They built a wonderful life together and a great life for their four children. Clayton worked for Phillips Petroleum Company, and earned a long overdue High School diploma by GED in order to accept a promotion in the company. In 1956, the year their last child was born, Clayton became the operating partner in Lindsey Well Service, Inc. He worked hard, took risks and made the company into a success which afforded him the ability to give his children the better life he had so desired as a child.

Clayton and his wife Camilla loved to fish and eventually bought a cabin on Lake Texoma where they spent many happy times with their family. Clayton enjoyed teaching his kids to waterski and spent many hours pulling them around the lake. When grandchildren came along, he enjoyed teaching them to fish and play on the lake as well.

Clayton purchased a large acreage of land with an old farmhouse in far Northeast Oklahoma at a place called Eucha. Clayton and Camilla spent a lot of time traveling back and forth from their home in Lindsay to their farm and they worked hard to make it into a working cattle ranch. They eventually built a new rock home there and the whole family enjoyed going to "the ranch" to get away and be in nature and spend time together and getting to know their country neighbors.

On August 29, 1989, the whole family was shocked and saddened by the sudden death of the oldest son, Clayton Dean Lindsey. Then, on November 2, 1994, Clayton's beloved wife, Camilla passed away after an aggressive return of her cancer.

Clayton's life changed forever, but he took up the challenge of learning and doing all of the many tasks that Camilla had so sufficiently taken care of for many years. Having already had heart bypass surgery, he kept himself in good shape, worked on his ranch, kept up his three homes and all that goes with that. He still found time to golf, fish and spend time with his family. Clayton had closed his business in 1991, and he decided to sell his ranch in 1998. But he continued to stay active and vibrant for many years.

When Clayton was in his eighties, he began to study the Bible and made the decision to rededicate himself to the commitment he had made to the Lord Jesus Christ in his youth. Like everything in Clayton's life, when he made a decision to do something, he did it. Clayton began to follow the Lord and His word with his whole heart and was a strong witness for Him in word and in deed. He was a faithful member of the Ratliff City Church of Christ where many of his family members also attended.

After the Lord, family meant everything to Clayton. He loved his children, his grandchildren, his great-grandchildren and his great-great grandchildren. He also had an abiding love for his sisters and brothers and all of their families as well as Camilla's extended family which he thought of as his own. He was greatly loved by all of these family members and was through the years thought of by the families as the one to whom you could always turn for help or advice. It is not easy to lose such a person. He will be missed beyond all measure. But, the family takes comfort in the knowledge that he is now at rest in the arms of Jesus in Heaven above just waiting on us all.

Mr. Lindsey is survived by one son, Emmitt Ray Lindsey and wife Judy, two daughters; Linda Jean Keck and husband Preston and Lila Kay Gossett and husband Wayne, a special niece who is like a daughter, Margaret Montgomery

and husband Richard, two sisters; Veneta Briscoe and husband Dewey and Mary Steele and husband Bobby, and his grandchildren: Camilla Degering, Randy Keck, Kevin Keck, Todd Lindsey, Tucker Gossett, Tracy Andrews, Rick Skorepa and Brandi Alsip as well as Margaret's children, Marla Trecek and Ross Montgomery. He also leaves behind 19 great-grandchildren and three great-great grandchildren along with a host of other beloved family members and friends.

Clayton was preceded in death by his soulmate and wife, Camilla Lindsey, his son, Clayton, Dean Lindsey, his parents, Emmett Eskiel Lindsey and Dona Lindsey, three brothers; Millard Eskiel Lindsey, J.W. "Jub" Lindsey and Oscar Lindsey and two sisters, Ella (Lindsey) Webb and Cordella (Lindsey) Melton as well as two siblings who died in infancy.

The family would like to express their grateful appreciation to Clayton's caregivers and Loving Care Hospice for providing good care to their father.

Funeral services for Mr. Lindsey are set for ten o'clock a.m. on Tuesday, July 16, 2013 at the Erin Springs Baptist Church, located on Highway 76 South of Lindsay in Erin Springs, Oklahoma. Services will be officiated by Gospel Preacher Bruce Roebuck and Pastor Clay Hicks. Interment will follow at Green Hill Cemetery in Lindsay, Oklahoma. Services are under the direction of B. G. Boydston Funeral Home of Lindsay, Oklahoma. The family requests memorial contributions be made to "Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma-Backpack for Kids", 3355 S. Purdue, P.O. Box 270968, OKC, OK 73137-0968. Condolences for the family may be made online at [www.boydstonfuneralhome.com](http://www.boydstonfuneralhome.com).

# Tribute Wall

LG

“ We all miss you Daddy more than words can say. Life without you will never ever be as good, but we rejoice knowing that you are free and in the presence of our Lord. We want to thank everyone for their wonderful comments about Dad. We loved and still love him dearly, but it is comforting to hear from others the high esteem in which he was held.

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**Lila (Lindsey) Gossett** - August 02, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CP

“ I really have no words to express my feelings. I feel like I have lost a member of my own family. He was the most wonderful man I ever worked for.

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**Chuck Phillips** - July 23, 2013 at 12:00 AM

GN

“ Emmett and Lila... These are the years when our parents are passing and (too soon) some of our own classmates as well. Certainly a time for solemn remembrances, but also a time to simply reflect on ones own life and the people who have touched it in one manner or another over the years. Hope you are both well and that life has been good to you!

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**Gayle Noe** - July 22, 2013 at 12:00 AM

GB

“ Lila, We were so sorry to hear of your dad's passing. We are keeping you and your family in our prayers. We love you, Greg & Jayne

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**Greg Blakemore** - July 20, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ I have so many wonderful memories of Clayton and his family. My husband, Loren, worked for Lindsey Well Service from his early twenties to his late fifties. Clayton was always so good to him and I am so grateful for that. Clayton was a good man.<br><br>I will be praying for the entire family in this time of grief.

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**Shirley Miller** - July 19, 2013 at 12:00 AM

LJ

“ I have a lot of great memories as for the Lindsey Well Service. Rig Pushers, Rig Operators and Floor Hands. Clayton and all his staff were great to me while working for Western Wireline and many other Wireline Services throughout the Oil and Gas Industry. I looked upon Clayton as for be an legend within community and within the Well Service Industry. I am very proud and was blessed to have known such a man as Clayton. Thank You Clayton for all the help throughout the years past for helping me within my Wireline Services. RIP Clayton you had done so much for so many throughout your life. Respectfully Leonard Janousek

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**Leonard Janousek** - July 18, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ We are sorry for your loss and grief. My dad (J.D.) also sends his well wishes. May you find His perfect peace. JDB

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**Joe Bryant** - July 18, 2013 at 12:00 AM

VS

“ Lila, I am so sorry about your father's passing. I remember what a fine man his was. Sincerely, Vicki Padgett Seftar

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**Vicki Padgett Seftar** - July 17, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BW

“ *Brother Clayton was a faithful member of the true church of Christ!  
We will miss him but we know his obedience to the Lords  
commands gives him hope.*

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**Bro Ward** - July 16, 2013 at 12:00 AM