



Coach Gary Autry "GA" Moore Jr

November 23, 1938 - September 5, 2025

Coach G.A. Moore, legendary Pilot Point coach and friend passed away at his home in Pilot Point, Texas, September 5, 2025. He was born in Mustang, Texas, to Gary Autry and Era Gaynell Moore, Sr., November 23, 1938. He married his high school sweetheart Lois Ann Graves May 20, 1961, in Pilot Point. They have celebrated over 60 years of marriage together. He received his master's in education while building a legacy for his family. He is the proud father of three daughters, Pam Moore of Wapanucka, OK, Carol and husband Brian Lynn of Pilot Point, and Tona and husband Dean Drees of Tioga and his son Gary Don. He is known as Big Dad to his 9 grandchildren and 8 great grandchildren. He is also survived by his sister Margie Moore Vasquez of Pilot Point; daughter in law, Valerie Moore of Pilot Point; several nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his parents, and son, Gary Don; sister Peggy Slayton; and nephews, Craven Vasquez and Denis Hall.

Known as Coach Moore, he has won more than 400 Texas high school football games and with 8 state championships. He retired as Texas' winning high school coach (429-97-9).

In high school at Pilot Point, G.A. played four sports, lettering 16 times. He played football on scholarship at North Texas State University and graduated in 1962 with a Bachelor of Science degree. He earned his master's from NTSU in 1967.

His legendary coaching career started in 1962 at Bryson High School and went 5-5 in his first season. He came back to Pilot Point the next year as head

coach. After taking a few years off from coaching, he then returned in 1972 as head coach at Celina High School. There he built a 52-5-2 record over the first five years and then led the Celina Bobcats to a State Championship in 1974. Later in 1977, he returned home to Pilot Point where he led his alma mater the Pilot Point Bearcats, in back-to-back state championships in 1980 and 1981. He remained as head coach to the Pilot Point Bearcats until 1986 when he accepted a position as football coach at Sherman High School. Sherman went from 0-10 to a record of 6-4. At that year's end, he was named the Dallas Area Coach of the Year.

G.A. then returned to Celina, where he coached an additional 14 years. In his first season, the Celina Bobcats advanced to the state semifinals. This stretch went 163-22 and captured five state championships, including four consecutive. The Celina Bobcats also amassed a 57-game winning streak. In 2002, G.A. was called back to Pilot Point, serving as head coach for three more seasons.

After a three-year sabbatical, he became the head coach in Aubrey where he officially retired.

G.A. was inducted into the Texas Sports Hall of Fame in 2012 and was recognized November 7, 2024, for his contributions to the Pilot Point community by naming the football field at Massey Stadium, The G.A. Moore Jr. field.

G.A. was recognized for his accomplishments in football, but he considered his spiritual commitment with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to be his foremost source of pride when reflecting on his life. He subsequently served as the pastor of Mustang Baptist Church demonstrating dedicated leadership and service for almost 10 years.

Our family sincerely appreciates your attendance and the generous expressions of support as we honor and remember the life of G.A. Moore, Jr.

Cemetery Details

Pilot Point Community Cemetery

601 N. Prairie Street
Pilot Point, TX 76258

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 8. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Midway Church
9540 US-377
Pilot Point, TX 76258

Funeral Service

SEP 9. 10:00 AM (CT)

Midway Church
9540 US-377
Pilot Point, TX 76258

Tribute Wall

DW

“ Don W. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Coach Gary Autry "GA" Moore Jr.



Don W. - September 11, 2025 at 10:56 AM



“ In Loving Memory of Coach G.A. Moore

What an awesome legacy! Coach Moore was not only my late husband Dan Scott's coach, but also his friend and pastor. He was instrumental in shaping the wonderful man I loved and married—just as he did for so many other fine men through his coaching, mentoring, and preaching the Word of God.

Many mourn today because we feel the weight of his absence, but we also celebrate the tremendous love, guidance, and faith he poured into the lives of others. His influence will live on in the countless men and families he touched.

He is now where he belongs—deservingly so in God's eternal presence.

Rest well, Coach Moore. Your legacy continues in us. ❤️🙏

Teresa Scott - September 09, 2025 at 12:50 PM

RC

“ My thoughts and prayers are with the family of G.A. Moore. When G.A. would come to the football games, he would still take a few minutes to shake my hand and give me a few minutes of his time. He was a real true hero to everyone he has touched. I am very blessed to have gotten to know G.A., through my many years at Pilot Point.



Rebecca Lea Czubakowski - September 08, 2025 at 06:01 PM

KA

“ Kent and Susie Arrendell share our deepest condolences to the GA Moore family. I met GA Moore for the first time at the FBC of Celina in 2001. He was serving as a deacon and I had just been called to the church to serve as their Minister of Music. Served from 2001 to 2009. He was still coaching at the time and was on a roll to more state championships. Coach Moore was the first coach that I would ever meet that served as a deacon during his coaching career. I had the privilege of being his first Music Minister at Mustang Baptist church where he would pastor till reaching his final home on September 5, 2025 to be with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I experienced a close and warm relationship serving with him and the folks that would come to hear him preach the gospel. I will never forget those services watching his wife Lois Ann coach and send in the plays to GA as he preached. She kept him on track and he loved every minute of it, most of the time! lol Go rest high on that mountain,, GA. You kept your faith and stayed the course. Well done!

Kent Arrendell - September 08, 2025 at 05:55 PM

PM

“ *The Paul and Christa Martin family send our sincere condolences and prayers to the entire Moore family ! G.A. was a great leader and man of God who I (and others) was privileged to serve with as a Deacon at FBC Celina. Blessings to Lois Ann especially....we send our love to you !*

Paul and Christa Martin - September 08, 2025 at 03:22 PM

KG

“ *That staff and residents send our condolences, and we lift Lois up in our prayers.*



Katrina Gaskill - September 08, 2025 at 11:57 AM

BK

“ *Brenda Kruger lit a candle in memory of Coach Gary Autry "GA" Moore Jr*



Brenda Kruger - September 07, 2025 at 08:40 PM

AW

“ *So many great memories. To this day, my father, Charles Einfield, claims his hiring of Coach Moore as his "greatest hire!" I remember him and Coach Jerry Moore taking us camping at the farm. We tried to ride a pony (with a flank strap) named Bullet. And of course the great man and leader in and out of school. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the entire family. Won't be able to attend, but the Winfield family loves you all.*

Allan Winfield - September 07, 2025 at 06:40 PM

AW

Oops, spelling. Winfield

Allan Winfield - September 07, 2025 at 06:41 PM

KK

“ *Will never forget the one time I got to sit down and visit with Coach Moore. We had competed against Celina while I was an assistant football coach at Bells. Sat with him at a basketball tournament and we talked about horses and calf roping almost the entire couple of hours. Much respect for that man!*

Keith Kirkland - September 07, 2025 at 04:13 PM

LH

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with the family. I remember GA's kindness and support as my principal when I was a beginning teacher. I always respected his love and guidance to the young men and women he coached and mentored.*

Linda Loftice Horton - September 07, 2025 at 02:46 PM

CN

“ I don't know one thing about football, but G A always knew me and talked about common interests we shared. Agriculture, livestock and our almighty God. His granddaughter Kenzie and my daughter, Obbie, played together at his farm. I could see God shine through his daughter Tona, who helped me in 2nd grade Awanas for years. When we moved to Pilot Point over 30 years ago, we were unaware of his unbelievable dominance in high school football. We did not learn about it from friends and his family, but through strangers. You see, our family showed Quarter Horses all over Texas. People would always ask us where we were from. We would answer Pilot Point. Many people would respond, “ G A Moore Country,” “ The winningest coach in Texas High School history, and on and on. Some people would ask, “ Do you actually know G A Moore?” These responses made us aware of the influence this humble man had in our great state and beyond. I attended many services at Midway Baptist Church and Mustang Baptist Church. I know many great stories will be told about this fine man, but for me, he was my friend that served God and survived being bitten by a copperhead as he moved hay. Thank you, Claire Freeze Nichols

Claire Freeze Nichols - September 06, 2025 at 06:26 PM

Jl

“ With heartfelt sympathy to the family and with prayers going your way. Rest In Peace GA. We had some great memories competing against each other. With fondness and respect. James and Joyce Ivy.



James and Joyce Ivy - September 06, 2025 at 05:12 PM

“ Unfortunately, my schedule will not allow me to be at the service or visitation, but I have to share a memory, and it’s hard to pick just one, so here come two. 😊

The first is simple and funny. I was the head JV coach for Celina and on the verge of an undefeated season. We had only a few seconds to play and we were ahead by 4 points. I decided to play it safe and simple keep the other team from making a big play, so I just called for a simple prevent defense. Coach Moore walked up to me on the sideline and said “What are you doing boy. Don’t let em up, and then he called for his infamous 10-1 defense. The other team (name doesn’t matter - but it was a former Celina asst coach) busted through the line and broke for a 50 yd TD as time expired. Coach Moore simply said well they should have tackled better 😊😊

Now for the real heart warming, and true Coach Moore we all knew and loved.

Sitting in his coaches office at Celina HS, I was at a crossroad in my life. I was torn between going full-time in the ministry and abandoning coaching, or trying to stay in Celina and teach and coach full-time (with maybe ministry part time)

We started the meeting praying together, and then he looked me straight in the eyes and said, “if you listen, then you know what God is telling you to do, and if you are confused then God is NOT in it.” I love coaching, and I will never forget coaching with him, but I will truly never forget that day when God gave me a very clear answer about being full-time in the ministry, and Coach GA Moore knew I loved football, but I was called to be a Youth and Worship Pastor.

Even though “life circumstances” have changed, the way God used Coach Moore in my life will NEVER be forgotten, and I’m sure many more stories like this are out there.

Love and prayers to all the family, friends, former coaches and players. We are ALL better people because we knew and love Coach GA Moore.

Curt Pool - September 06, 2025 at 04:52 PM

LN

“*Sorry to hear of coach Moore passing have fond memories while he was at Bryson ISD was really good man truly cared about us kids also remember him playing semi pro while here praying for family.*”



Larry and Terry Nantz - September 06, 2025 at 01:25 PM



“*Deauna Williams lit a candle in memory of Coach Gary Autry "GA" Moore Jr*”



Deauna Williams - September 06, 2025 at 09:58 AM

SO

“*GA and my dad went to school together. My dad loved GA, during all his stories about Pilot Point, GA was in them. During his many years of coaching, I think dad was at most of his games. When dad passed and we were having the memorial it was 2 days before thanksgiving giving. GA come to the funeral home and spent an hour with me telling his side of the stories about dad. He was such a special man, he impacted so many of our lives. He will be missed! Tell Jamie hello and I miss him!*”

suzi Opitz - September 06, 2025 at 09:10 AM

LN

I first heard of G.A. Moore from my cousin who was a coach for Brazosport near Freeport and the Galveston area. We moved here in the early ninety's. Then I met his daughter Tona years later through her work with the Angel Tree. She always speaks so highly of her father and his leadership. They are blessed to have had him as a Dad. ❤️🙏

Linda Navarre - September 08, 2025 at 04:24 PM

VM

“ Coach G.A, Moore was like a man that required you to be better, do better, be kinder, inspire others. It was his faith that gave him the quiet spirit to reach many. He took my son under his football wings and made him fly. Made him be a better man. Made many of our young men and women be better!!! Inspired me that faith and God is what life is about... reaching and teaching others that faith!! We will miss your quiet stand. Celina will miss you and all the people in close proximity will miss you!!! RIP... Valecia Fore Moore

Valecia fore Moore - September 06, 2025 at 08:32 AM

CL

“ During Gary Don's illness, I donated my precious GA autographed football to a support auction. But, I kept the note GA wrote to me. I could not let it go with the ball. It was too valuable!

Connie Layman - September 06, 2025 at 07:59 AM

KD

“ Kellye Derr lit a candle in memory of Coach Gary Autry "GA" Moore Jr



Kellye Derr - September 05, 2025 at 11:31 PM

CS

“ Carrie Smith lit a candle in memory of Coach Gary Autry "GA" Moore Jr



Carrie Smith - September 05, 2025 at 11:02 PM

MS

“ So many memories in the time I coached for him. We could never get anywhere at the THSCA convention because everyone had to talk to him, I always laughed when we went out to eat as a staff....if they brought him dessert while we were eating he would stop no matter how much was on his plate to eat it. Something I will never forget though him, Gary, and I weren't checking everything before we played Callisburg and we walk into the visitor locker room and there was a baby copperhead in the corner. Gary and I jumped back and we sit there and watch him about 6 inches from it. He made fun of us all night.

Mike Segleski - September 05, 2025 at 09:24 PM

MA

“ Maddy lit a candle in memory of Coach Gary Autry "GA" Moore Jr



Maddy - September 05, 2025 at 09:20 PM

SP

“ *Sharon Pickrel lit a candle in memory of
Coach Gary Autry "GA" Moore Jr*



Sharon Pickrel - September 05, 2025 at 09:15 PM