



Gary Don Moore

April 4, 1977 - December 31, 2020

Gary Don Moore, 43, of Pilot Point, TX, passed away Thursday, December 31, 2020, in Pilot Point, TX. He was born April 4, 1977, in Denton to G.A. and Lois Ann (Graves) Moore, Jr. On May 21, 2005, he married the love of his life, Valerie Rich, at First Baptist Church in Celina, TX.

Gary was a proud graduate of Celina High School's Class of 1996. During that time, he was honored by the Texas Sports Writers Association as a member of the Class 2A All-State Team. He was also named the Class 2A Player of the Year, 1st Team Quarterback and the 1st Team Punter. He received an athletic scholarship and attended The University of Oklahoma in Norman.

Gary later earned his degree in education from Southeastern Oklahoma State University in Durant. As an educator for more than 18 years, Gary served the students of Plano ISD as a math teacher and football coach, impacting the lives of young people far beyond the classroom.

He was a faithful member of Mustang Baptist Church. He often said, "his greatest joy, even better than football, was to be able to speak to churches and youth groups about his relationship with Jesus Christ."

Gary is survived by his wife, Valerie Moore; daughters, Julianna "Faith" and Blakely Noelle Moore, and son, Gary Autry Moore III "Trey"; parents, G. A.

and Lois Ann Moore, Jr. of Pilot Point, TX; sisters, Pam Moore of Pilot Point, TX, Carol Lynn and husband, Brian of Collinsville, TX and Tona Drees and husband, Dean of Tioga, TX; His mother-in-law, Linda Manny of Allen, TX; father-in-law, Joe Rich and wife, Judy of Hurst, TX; Valerie's step-parents, Nieman Poe of Plano, TX, Kim Poe of McKinney, TX and Steve Manny of Allen, TX; four nieces and two nephews; and host of friends.

Gary was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Gary and Nell Moore; maternal grandparents, Don and Dorothy Graves; and sister-in-law, Julie Anna Rich.

A visitation will be held 3:00-5:00PM, Sunday, January 3, 2021 at Midway Church in Pilot Point, TX. The funeral service will be held at 12:00PM, Tuesday, January 5, 2021 at the Old Celina Football Stadium in Celina, TX with Brian Lynn officiating. A private family burial will follow at a later time. The pallbearers will be Danny David, Paul Elvington, Ryan Brooks, Jason Roberts, Jarrod Martin, Kyle Johns, Josh Chandler and Alex Payne. Online condolences may be shared at www.slaymemorialfuneralhome.com.

In lieu of flowers the family requests that donations be made to Mustang Baptist Church, 13335 Mustang Rd. Pilot Point, TX 76258, designated to the Gary Don Moore Scholarship Fund.

Arrangements are under the direction of Terri Slay and Slay Memorial Funeral Center.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 3. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Midway Church
9540 US-377
Pilot Point, TX 76258

Funeral Service

JAN 5. 12:00 PM (CT)

Old Celina Football Stadium
503 E. Pecan St.
Celina, TX 75009

Tribute Wall

DW

“ Coach Moore I miss you so much. You cross my mind everyday . Having you as a teacher was the best thing ever. I remember everyday I would bring you Kettle chips and you would fist pump me. I'm happy you're not suffering no more but sad that you're gone from this world. Fly High Coach Moore <3
-Danae

Danae Williams - January 24, 2021 at 12:17 AM

VK

“ Coach Moore, I miss you so much. You are my favorite teacher of all time. I loved Geometry and Math Models with you. I loved the football conversations we had. I miss them very much. One day, I can't wait to meet you again. When that day comes, I can't wait to tell you about what happened in the NFL and College. Rest easy until we meet again.

Vineel Kesavarapu - January 16, 2021 at 08:51 PM

AS

“ Coach Moore was my geometry teacher and football coach at Jasper (the year he moved from Celina). He was always always a gentleman and he was the best teacher I had. His calm demeanor and passion for us really taught me that there are good people in the world. Coach we love you. God is amazing and I'm glad you're with him now while he takes care of your family. With love.

Angel Sarinana - January 05, 2021 at 11:56 PM

CR

“ Gary Don and I co-taught a class for three years and you could tell he really enjoyed teaching. The students really took to his easy-going approach. He taught me that the little things just weren't worth stressing over. He always had my back in the room and I appreciate that. He will surely be missed and we've truly lost a good friend.

Charles Randall - January 05, 2021 at 01:04 PM

CM

“ Today will be a difficult day for you, Valerie...and his kids, parents, sisters, family and friends...we will bid farewell in this life to a special man that touched so many. We will see you again, Gary Don...until then, may God comfort those who remain and may Gary's legacy continue to bring others to Christ. We love you all...
Carol and Mark Martin

Carol and Mark Martin - January 05, 2021 at 11:01 AM

CC

“ I coached track with Gary Don at East and he loved his kids and his pregame ritual. He would take his runners and put some goop on their legs and make them think they would win no matter what. Whatever it was he did, they won! He was funny, loving and a genuine person. He loved the kids he coached, the people he coached with and he loved coaching. He adored his family as they were his number one. I'm sad he won't be here to give me a hard time. Blessed that God allowed me to meet such an awesome person.

Cristy Cooley - January 05, 2021 at 05:05 AM

KG

“ Val and family; what an AMAZING man, son, brother, husband, father, coach and friend he was. He will forever live in our hearts and we will always remember the example he set for so many of us. I have so many great memories of Gary. One that I will never forget was his passion for kids. At one point in my life, I was struggling to raise my boys alone. I reached out to him for advice, strength and prayer. After witnessing my weakness with the boys, he called me and said “Let me take the boys, play football with them and help them with homework. They can spend the night and I will get them to school the next morning “

This was at a time that he also had a full schedule, wife and small children at home. This was Gary. He was always helping, thinking and praying for others. I pray that my boys will have the same compassion. We are going to miss you Coach. Watch over all of us. Your life here was too short but I know we will see each other again for eternity.

karen Guillot - January 04, 2021 at 03:58 PM

SC

“ While I didn’t know Gary Don personally, Valerie would always tell me what a wonderful man he was. It was so obvious the love of the Lord shines in his family, and that is a testament to the man who led well. While we don’t understand why the Lord allows some to leave this world before their time, we know we can trust Him in the midst of it. God is ever-faithful. Romans 8:28 is my favorite verse, “And we know that God works all things together for good, for those who love Him and are called according to His purpose”. Even through your great loss, Jesus is being glorified through your pain. God will carry you through these times, make you stronger and draw you even closer to Him, if you will allow it. May you find peace, hope, love and joy in the midst of your pain. I’m praying for great blessings for your family! ❤️🙏

With love and hope,
Sandy Cassady

Sandy Cassady - January 04, 2021 at 02:27 PM

VD

“ There are so many memories I have of Gary Don, the first one that sticks out in my mind was Big Mama told me he had to have mayonnaise on his chili dog (when we had team meals) but I had a child that required the same thing. Playing basketball he always said he could hear his Mama and I talking and laughing all during the games (said he always knew when we got to the games). But a special memory is when at the age 15 he went to church camp with my son, Dusty, they both came home on fire with the Lord, I loved hearing the stories they told from camp. Words are not enough at this time, but I hope this family can feel the love and prayers that my family has said for all of you. Your bond as a FAMILY is the testament of what you are, the closeness you have in faith and family, I hope this will get you through the most difficult time in losing such a wonderful man, because I know he was your pride and joy.

We love you Cloyce and Vicki Draper

Vicki L Draper - January 04, 2021 at 01:53 PM

JS

“ Gary Don Moore and each member of his sweet family have been such an inspiration to all during their ALS journey! I know they all suffered right along with Gary! Gary was so courageous and showed great faith in our Lord and Savior!! Now he is no longer suffering and at rest!! May God bless Each member of the Moore's family and grant them His comfort and peace! We send you our love and prayers, Jim & Rosemary Schindler and family

Jim & Rosemary Schindler - January 04, 2021 at 12:46 PM

KB

“ Our first memories of spending time around Gary and Valerie were when Kena and Travis got married in Cabo. We spent many hours in the pool in the days leading up to the wedding. During that time through our conversations Gary and I developed a bond since we were both coaches. In all that time Gary never called me Kenny, always Coach and yes sir no sir. It was obvious the respect he had for us older coaches. Congrats Coach Moore and Mrs. Moore for raising such a high character young man. Absolutely, cherish talking football with young coaches such as Gary. Some 7 years later (2018) Gary and Valerie found out through Kena that Gail and I were going to Seaside resort in Playa. They also were planning to go there and were able to schedule so we would have a 3 or 4 day overlap. This was probably 6-7 months after Gary and Valerie found out the ALS diagnosis. We had such a great time with this special couple and will always cherish those memories and the pictures posted here. Valerie, we are praying for you and those sweet kiddos each and every day for peace and comfort. Prayers also for the entire Moore family and friends.



Kenny Barnes - January 04, 2021 at 12:20 PM

BC

“ We didn't know Gary Don before he got sick. However from the moment we met him we knew he was a fighter. A few overtime's but always a smile! We love you all. His witness for Jesus will keep growing! And one thing for sure we will see him again. Hugs to you all! Baxter and June

Baxter/June Cook - January 04, 2021 at 09:45 AM

RN

“ Coach,Lois Ann and Moore family. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Randy and Brenda Nelson

Randy and Brenda Nelson - January 04, 2021 at 09:23 AM

KB

“ I am so sorry to hear about Gary Don's passing. Fond memories of him as a child sleeping in his Mom's lap at PPHS football games, and then Sherman games. Know your body is healed and you are flying high watching over your parents, wife, children, sister's and their families. Prayers for all family and friends! Karen Benton Nacogdoches, TX

Karen Benton - January 03, 2021 at 11:32 PM

EF

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Eric & Julie Farrar - January 03, 2021 at 01:27 PM

EF

“May God give ya’ll comfort in your time of grief. We love each of you deeply & May our friend & savior Jesus Christ bless & carry each of you today & every day. Heaven just got stronger & better!
🙏 With love, Eric & Julie Farrar”

Eric & Julie Farrar - January 03, 2021 at 01:22 PM

CC

“Coach Moore was Joseph’s 🏈 position coach at Plano East, and touched Joseph and the players with his love of life and love of God. He was more than a coach to them, as he was the model of a servant leader. He truly loved his players and wanted the best for them in life. He always signed out with “love you”... and meant it. Thanks to God and the Moore family for sharing Coach Moore with us all.

Praying for the Moore family... for peace, understanding and continued faith in his works.



Carol Carter - January 03, 2021 at 08:21 AM

RW

“Gary Don has touched so many lives. The way he talked to kids, other coaches, and parents was always very straight forward and honest. I was taught that at a young age and always appreciated that about Gary Don. When he told one of his players that he loved them, he meant it. He will be missed. Heaven has a good one. God Bless.

Rick Woodard - January 02, 2021 at 07:17 PM

NC

“ Spent a lot of time talking ball and talking life! I am honored to call you family. Our families bonded and looked after each other. Your daughter taught my son how to ride a bike. You tried to teach me your one signature dance move! Your family always showed love and fellowship unlike anything I have experienced outside of blood. So many fun times and great experiences with this man. My dude! Rest easy brother.

Nate



Nate Collins - January 02, 2021 at 06:59 PM



Oh honey, no words . I know how much you loved and enjoyed him. He was a great young man💕

Alison McClelland - January 02, 2021 at 08:35 PM

DE

Kenny and I are so sad at the passing of Gary Don. Of course with Kenny growing up and playing football under Virgil Miller he missed playing for GA. But our son Marc played against Gary Don for years. I visited with Gary Don a few years ago at a Celina Homecoming parade. A very gracious young man. So we knew them from living in Prosper and playing against Celina. I can't imagine how much Valerie and the kids will miss him and with their broken hearts are GA And his momma and sisters. Prayers for strength and peace to get through this heart breaking loss.

Kenny and Donna Elliott
Prosper, TX

donna elliott - January 03, 2021 at 12:00 AM



“ You helped me so much my first year at Plano East and I loved working with you and watching you interact with our students. Thank you for always being there for me those early mornings for practice even when you didn't have to.

Robert Reed



Robert Reed - January 02, 2021 at 06:43 PM

E(

“ I never will forget meeting him such a kind considerate individual . He was very inspiring with his smile gave me faith and hope for dealing with cancer. Such an angel one that I will never forget. My prayers are with GA,Lois Ann his wife Valariemanother amazing individual and his three little angels Faith, Blakey and Trey. Also thoughts and prayers to Carol Pam And Tonya I can't forget Brian who seemed to be around when Gary & family needed him. Love you all. Ernie Riley

Ernestine Riley (Ernie) - January 02, 2021 at 12:46 PM

LN

“ I am so sorry to hear of Gary Don's death. He was such a positive upbeat person.
I extend my deepest condolences to G A and Lois Ann.

Lloyd Nichols

Lloyd Nichols - January 02, 2021 at 11:11 AM

DA

“ GA, Lois Ann, and the Moore Family,

So very sorry to hear of Gary Don's passing. I, in my professional career, worked with a lot of folks with ALS. So, I know how devastating ALS is for the patient and their family. Y'all are in our thoughts and prayers.

Devin and Laren Abbe - January 02, 2021 at 10:59 AM

JJ

“ Joann Jones sent a virtual gift in memory of Gary Don Moore



Joann Jones - January 01, 2021 at 07:12 PM

JJ

“Wishing you strength and comfort through this difficult time.” “Thinking of you and wishing you moments of peace and comfort.” “I hope you know I'm here for you during this time of sorrow.” “Please accept my warmest condolences.

Joann Jones - January 01, 2021 at 07:14 PM

DJ

“ Donald Jones lit a candle in memory of Gary Don Moore



Donald Jones - January 01, 2021 at 07:11 PM

DB

“ Our family is so saddened of Gary ‘s passing. We all know that this is so sad but we truly believe he is now without pain and smiling that he has such a loving family and friends that will truly miss him. May the Lord grant you the Peace and Blessings of having such a wonderful son and the memories will never fade. Grace be with you and your family.

The Tim Berry family, Celina, Texas

Doris Berry - January 01, 2021 at 03:48 PM

SO

“ Thoughts and prayers to you and your family.

Sirena & Jason Olson - January 01, 2021 at 12:51 PM

BS

“ Valerie,

Our thoughts are with you and your family. We often think of the beautiful young family who moved into our neighborhood and my premonition that Trey would be coming into your family. You and Gary made a beautiful couple and lovely family. Now, as you face this loss, we trust God to help you find comfort and solace knowing that Gary is whole again with the Lord.

Brenda Siri - January 01, 2021 at 09:42 AM

MH

“ We came to know Gary only a few years ago during our time at Mustang Baptist Church. We have never met a finer individual. He was a joy to be around even after the deterioration of his once strong body progressed. One thing is certain: He was more than ready to meet God and ready for heaven and everyone knew it. He loved to tell others about Jesus and about what is really important in life. We look forward to seeing him strong and healthy once again when we join him in glory. Until then we will miss you Gary Don Moore and we grieve for your family and loved ones.

Mel & Karen Hooten - January 01, 2021 at 09:15 AM

CL

“ We will never forget Celina playing West High when in the second half Gary Don received the kick and would not go down. He got hit and kept going. He refused to go fine. One hit after another. We knew that he was a winner on the field and in life. We love you all, Connie and Roddy Layman

Connie Layman - December 31, 2020 at 10:00 PM

JH

I will never forget that play either! One of the best I ever saw.

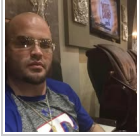
Jonathan Hewett - January 01, 2021 at 01:17 AM

LW

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Larry & Aida Watlington - December 31, 2020 at 09:41 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Nic Hoover - December 31, 2020 at 08:13 PM