



Olan Wayne Heathcock

August 28, 1964 - December 17, 2022

How do you summarize a man like Olan Wayne Heathcock, or as we would say, the original Big Poppy.

He was born on August 28, 1964, to Olan Heathcock and Betty Jean Heathcock of Mansfield, TX. Right from the beginning, you could tell that Wayne was going to be something special. He overcame so many obstacles in his life that would have crushed a weaker man, but it forged the man that many called a friend.

Wayne was a passionate man, which could be heard the moment he entered a room. He commanded attention with his larger-than-life personality and the fact he had never met a stranger, which served him well in the business world. He was a sales machine; he could work any room and find a way to enter your heart, and “no” wasn't an option. From selling signs to businesses to managing million-dollar mergers and custom technology solutions for companies, he found joy in pursuing what you valued, and he strived to be the person that could fulfill that value.

At home, he had many roles and titles as well, such as beloved husband to his high school sweetheart Robyn for 38 years. They partnered together during many different seasons of life, from the early moments of being the sole provider outside the house to the later moments in life after his

motorcycle accident, where he partnered with Robyn on the home front and returned to his love of technology to help build custom products to support her growing business. More recently, he was excited to be brought on the team of a private equity group.

He wore the title of Dad well to Mandey, Brad, and Tiffany, and later to be joined by Tim, Courtney, and Josh after they married into the family. There was nothing besides being Robyn's husband that brought him more joy than this title and the responsibility that went with fatherhood. He coached them in sports, shouted from the sidelines, and recorded everything, literally everything from the stands. His kids were a constant source of pride. He was so excited to share how each one was conquering the world in their own way. I think it was because he changed their "starting place." He was determined not to let his kids go through what he did and strived to provide that in as many ways as he could and succeeded in doing so.

There was never as big of an encourager as Wayne. He had a way of taking the simplest of your victories and turning them into monumental milestones. He could breathe life into your relationship in a second. He allowed his passion for life to flow through his words. While the source of those words may cease, their impact will continue as we reread texts, listen to the audio notes, and reflect on the things he has written and spoken to us over the years.

His relationship with faith has grown and changed from the early years as he was on a path to become a church of Christ preacher to the story of the powerful moment that the Holy Spirit changed his spiritual life while on a sales trip. God used the owner of a back woods woodworker to upend his world. It was a God-ordained moment that would change not only his life but his family's. Many of you can recall moments with tear-filled eyes he would pray for you or speak a word over you, or even maybe you were the recipient of a

God moment through Wayne. He found many ways to serve in the church, from preaching and teaching, to leading volunteer teams, writing discipleship pathways, and even finding ways to include technology and automation into the church world. He and Robyn currently attend Glory of Zion in Corinth.

He was an over-the-top grandparent, and it's where the name Poppy comes from. It started as his Grandparent name for Presleah, Paityn, and Olivia, but soon became his family identity. Just shy of 9 years ago, that title was claimed, and he worked hard to try to outdo Nana. He was the typical grandparent who took spoiling to a new level on every trip we took. He wanted to take them on new experiences every time we were together but obviously couldn't do that without a souvenir or shopping trip first. Each one of the current three have been prayed for, spoken over, and loved on, but also any that come later because he often spoke of the legacy he would leave through his kids, so He and Robyn prayed spouses in and regularly prayed for the "what is to come" for each of them.

Wayne loved to play games, wait correction Wayne loved to win games. No matter what he played, it was for keeps. The family game of choice was 42, and many hours were spent around the table with a handful of dominoes. More recently, he rekindled his love for the outdoors with hunting and fishing. He even had family hunting and fishing trips on the book for the summer and fall.

Coming from a meager beginning, he had an eye for the finer things in life. He always wanted the best; whether that was suits, cars, home decor, or accessories, he wanted to send a message when he entered the scene. Those humble beginnings also made him ingenious. He never found a need he couldn't meet with something from around the house or garage. Tow straps, bungee cords, duct tape and ropes were always within arm's reach to

solve any problem he encountered.

Now, because you never knew what could come up, he always came with a bag full of “supplies” some lovingly called it his “murse” or “man purse” he called it essential, but he was already ready.

Wayne’s family, Audrey, Patty, and the late sister Carol were so important to him, and he tried to love and support them in anyway that he felt he could.

Wayne passed from this world to the next on December 17, 2022.

While he may be absent from our lives, he will never leave our hearts and memories. The world now has a Wayne-sized hole no one will ever be able to fill.

Visitation will be held 12:00PM-1:00PM, Thursday, December 22, 2022 at Slay Memorial Chapel in Aubrey, TX and the funeral service will begin at 1:00PM with Tim Puckett officiating. Interment will follow at Roselawn Memorial Park in Denton, TX. Online condolences may be shared at www.slaymemorialfuneralhome.com.

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

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **22**. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Slay Memorial Chapel of Aubrey
400 South Highway 377
Aubrey, TX 76227
info@slaymemorial.com
<http://www.slaymemorialfuneralhome.com>

Funeral Service

DEC **22**. 1:00 PM (CT)

Slay Memorial Chapel of Aubrey
400 South Highway 377
Aubrey, TX 76227
info@slaymemorial.com
<http://www.slaymemorialfuneralhome.com>

Burial

DEC **22** (CT)

Roselawn Memorial Park
3801 Roselawn Dr.
Denton, TX 76207
kacy@roselawndenton.com
<http://roselawndenton.com>

Tribute Wall

JL

“ Wayne is on my mind today more than ever. I'm sitting at a real estate convention and remembering the many times I have attended this event and how he impacted me at each one. It can be difficult to tread water in a sea of people while also trying to "drink from the fire hose" of market data and operations processes that are being shared. My brain is not neurotypical and I struggle with articulating insights and inquiries about technology in this environment.

But Wayne understood me with ease. He always had patience and showed kindness to me. Wayne would be an advocate for me when he noticed that I was struggling silently or self-isolating with being overwhelmed. I miss you so much today. I wish that I could've thanked you and asked you to stay.

Your impact on my world won't be forgotten.

Jamie

Jamie Lewis - February 20, 2023 at 06:54 PM

SB

“ My husband and I met Wayne through his beautiful wife. He was outgoing and friendly. He was loved and will be missed. I'll continue to pray for Robyn and the family.

Stephanie Barnes-Darby - February 01, 2023 at 12:17 AM

AU

“ I love you little brother, I've told you many times I loved you more than I love myself. I am missing you today tomorrow and forever. Just know that I love you.



Audrey - January 15, 2023 at 07:39 PM

RW

“ Wayne sparked up a conversation with me at a Kroger gas station and Wow! What an amazing personality and kind soul. We exchanged contact information and he connected meet for coffee. That conversation was such a blessing and lasted about 2 1/2 hours. During this he shared about his amazing family, faith, and journey. I was so impressed by his character and love for his family and desire to best the best person he could be for them. I saw a selfless person. He talked about finding his next purpose and being that husband, father, father-in-law and son-in-law that would make them proud. Based on our short time knowing each other over the past 6 months, I can truly say that I believe they were very proud. I am truly blessed and honored to have know Wayne, and so grateful that he introduced himself at that Kroger gas station. I will never forget Wayne and I know that God will say well done, good and faithful servant. My thoughts and prayers go out the family and to all those that Wayne touched their lives as well.

Rob Welsh - December 22, 2022 at 01:13 PM

DH

“ Wayne and I knew each other professionally. We didn't get to know each other personally. What I always remember about Wayne was his big smile matched with a hearty hand shake. Robyn and their family will remain in my prayers.

Daniel Harker - December 21, 2022 at 01:47 PM

LT

“ There are no words in the English Language that I can use to describe Wayne. I came into the family 25 years ago when I met him. There was never a more Godly Man I ever saw. He was always cordial to me and always had a smile on his face no matter what. Tina and I wished we could be there but because of the weather forecast we must stay in Hockley. May the Lord welcome Wayne to the Heavenly Family, and know one of these days we will all be together in Christ in Heaven. Larry & Tina Thompson.

Larry Thompson - December 21, 2022 at 11:29 AM

DW

“ Wayne and I are first cousins. We grew up in different states and didn't get to see him often. But, I have gotten to know him over the years as an adult on Face Book. He was such an inspiration as a Christian man who loved the Lord, life and his family passionately. He will be missed so much. Deb Wilhelm



Deb Wilhelm - December 21, 2022 at 11:04 AM



“ Wayne was such a kindhearted man. He always wanted the best for his family and his clients. He was a wonderful role model and a team player. I had reached out to him a couple of weeks ago to check in on him and Robyn. This is such a tragic loss to the community. He will not be forgotten. This too is temporary.

Randi Mills - December 20, 2022 at 08:04 PM

LA

My husband, Hamilton, and I met Wayne and Robyn years ago. They were so hospitable and kind to two strangers. We worked together at church and enjoyed our children together. Our best trip was by road to Pensacola so that we and our kids could attend the revival at Brownsville Assembly. Wayne, Robyn and the entire family will remain in our hearts. May Wayne be of blessed memory.

Linda Aland - January 04, 2023 at 08:24 PM