

# Obituary

Durwood Charles Gandy, a beloved father, grandfather, brother, and friend, passed away peacefully in his sleep on December 21, 2025, in Meridian, Texas. Born on February 14, 1939, Durwood's life spanned 86 years filled with love, laughter, and a relentless commitment to hard work.

Durwood dedicated his career to masonry, proudly owning Gandy Masonry in Whitney, Texas. His expertise in brickwork left a lasting impact on the community, as he was instrumental in the construction of Meridian High School and numerous surrounding schools, as well as several Bill Miller BBQ establishments. His craftsmanship was an extension of his generous spirit, which was evident in every project he completed.

Raised in a loving family, Durwood attended school in Hamilton and Meridian. His military service in the United States Army from December 1956 until his honorable discharge in 1964 further shaped the man he became—loyal, kind, and always ready to lend a helping hand.

Durwood is fondly remembered by his family, particularly his children Sonja "Sonni" Word and her husband Cole, and Steve Ashcraft and wife Tricia, who fondly recall the invaluable lessons they learned from him. Durwood was a devoted brother to Thelma Ditmore who holds cherished memories of their time together. His legacy extends to grandsons Justin Thomas, Kiley Word, Brian Ashcraft, Brooks Ashcraft, Danny Brookover, Jason Brookover, Jordan Leavitt, Gabe Leavitt, and many nephews and nieces. He was preceded in death by his wife, June Carter-Ashcraft Gandy, and his parents, Dan and Cliffie Gandy, as well as his late sister Maryann Whitehead, and children Donna Kay Ashcraft Jordan and Mark Ashcraft, and grandson, Jackson Leavitt.

Durwood found joy in the simple pleasures of life, whether it be fishing during his downtime or sharing a laugh with those around him. His gentle caring nature made him a delight to be around, and his generous heart never failed to shine through in his interactions with friends and family alike.

A graveside service will be held on December 26, 2025, at 10:00 AM at Whitney Memorial Park, 510 S Bosque St, Whitney, Texas. Family and friends are invited to gather and celebrate the remarkable life of a man who truly believed in the value of a hard day's work and the importance of caring for others. Durwood Gandy will be profoundly missed, but his memories will continue to live on in the hearts of those who loved him.

In lieu of flowers, the family welcomes plants as a living tribute in Durwood's memory.



# In Loving Memory



# Durwood Charles Gandy

FEBRUARY 14, 1939 - DECEMBER 21, 2025

*Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.*

*Give us this day our daily bread.*

*And forgive us our trespasses, as we  
forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but  
deliver us from evil.*

*For thine is the kingdom, and the  
power, and the glory, for ever and  
ever.*

*Amen.*



*In Loving Memory*

# DURWOOD CHARLES GANDY

**Date Of Birth**  
FEBRUARY 14, 1939



**Date Of Passing**  
DECEMBER 21, 2025

## GRAVESIDE SERVICE

Friday, December 26, 2025, 10:00 A.M.

Whitney Memorial Park Cemetery

Whitney, Texas

**OFFICIATING**  
Pastor Kevin Reasoner