

Arthur Richard Nowakowski, 1923 - 2016



Arthur Richard Nowakowski, 92, passed away peacefully on Saturday, January 16, 2016, at Belmont Village West Lake Hills in Austin, Texas, surrounded by family.

Art was born on November 28, 1923 to Thaddeus and Jane Nowakowski in Chicago, Illinois. He started public school in Chicago but moved to San Angelo, TX, at the age of 14 with his mom and dad because of his mom's declining health. On March 27th, 1942 at the age of 18, he enlisted in the US [Army](#) and on June 6, 1944, hit the beaches of Normandy on D-Day. During [World War II](#), he fought in five major battles across Europe and was awarded the Silver Star.

After the war, Art made a trip to the Rio Grande Valley to visit his aunt, June Derda, and never left. Soon after he met the love of his life, Marilyn Daughtrey, in San Benito, Texas, and they married on February 7th, 1947.

Art worked for and retired from the U. S Post Office and also owned Art's Jewelry in San Benito, TX and Nowakowski's Jewelry in Harlingen, TX, along with his wife, Marilyn and their son, Don. He retired for good from the jewelry business in 1987. He and Marilyn enjoyed retirement life together until her death in 2007. They were married for sixty years.

Art moved to Fun and Sun RV Resort in San Benito in 2008 where he made many friends. He met and married Lila McRae in 2008. They were married until 2014. He enjoyed fishing and hunting and his love of

shooting pool, playing cards, dominoes and chess kept him extremely busy at Fun and Sun RV Resort in San Benito. He was very proud to be a WWII Veteran and wore his cap with medals displayed to show that pride. He never knew a stranger and would always make sure that anyone he talked to knew about his WWII tour as well as asking them if they knew Jesus!!! He was a member of Rio Hondo Baptist Church.

Art lived in San Benito from 1945 until this past August when he was moved to Austin, Texas, to be near his 3 children.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his first wife, Marilyn, his second wife, Lila, his Aunt June Derda as well as his father and mother in law, Elisha and Katherine Daughtrey, whom he considered his parents.

He is survived by his daughter, Susan Parker of Austin, Texas, a son Don Nowakowski and wife Rita of Austin, Texas and a daughter Kathy Britsch and husband Bobby of San Saba, Texas. He is also survived by sisters and brothers in law, Betty and Irvin Hosie, Phoenix Arizona, Carol and LeRoy Mackey, Rockport Texas, and Sharon and Frank Mayer, Houston, Texas. He was proud of his grandchildren Nicole Parker, Brad Parker, Ryan and Courtney Nowakowski, Kyle Nowakowski, Daniel and Faith Britsch, Jason Britsch, great granddaughter Sylvia Nowakowski and his many nieces and nephews.

Graveside service was held at Mont Meta Cemetery in San Benito on Saturday, January 23, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. with Brother Gene Horton officiating. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Rio Hondo Baptist Church or a [charity of your choice](#).

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