

Hendershot, Rex 2012

REX HENDERSHOT Rex Hendershot was always strong, stubborn, and optimistic, even as he faced the unexpected battle with cancer that ended July 8, 2012. He was born in Detroit, Michigan, to Raymond and Ella Hendershot on September 25, 1926, was raised in New York City, and then came to Dallas at age 17. Here he immediately fell in love with Sheila Moreland and they were married for 64 years. Rex and Sheila stayed in the Dallas area and raised two children, Mary Gail and Robert Ray, before semi-retiring 13 years ago to a home on the Brazos River near Granbury, Texas. Rex served with the 8th Division of the Calvary in the Philippines and the American Division in Japan during World War II. He proudly shared many stories as he participated in the Spring 2011 Honor Flight DFW to Washington, D.C. for WWII Veterans, and expressed gratitude for the opportunities our country gave him. In fact, he started his career as an artist in the Army and used the GI Bill when he returned from the war to study art and advertising at North Texas State. Many will recognize Rex's work, but not his photo (both kept changing over the years), and many will recognize his name from his success in advertising as a commercial artist. Rex liked knowing that with etchings, paintings, and published illustrations, even billboards, he influenced personal decisions such as choosing class rings, floor coverings, or cartons of juice. He was proud to have supported the success of many clients in the Dallas area and across the nation with business logos, annual reports, product designs, mock-ups, and prototypes. He enjoyed the years he spent making etchings and illustrations for the Malone Studio, working at American Beauty Cover Company, being art-director for Taylor Publishing Company, building Graphics Response in Las Colinas, and creating his own studio, Hendershot Design. He loved collaborating (and competing) with local artists through groups such as the Dallas Art Association, Texas Fine Arts Association, and The Texas Visual Art Association. He especially enjoyed working alongside them at the Creative Arts Center, School of Sculpture, and the Craft Guild of Dallas at the Kramer School. As retirement approached, he turned to fine arts, filling galleries from the hill country of Texas way up to Wyoming with sculptures of bronze and clay, paintings, and pieces of western whimsy in mixed-media. Rex adored Sheila and loved his family and friends, but he was most passionate about art, often saying that he never wanted to quit working. He will be remembered as a truly unique man, and because of his gifted talents, his work will continue to be with us for generations to come.

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