

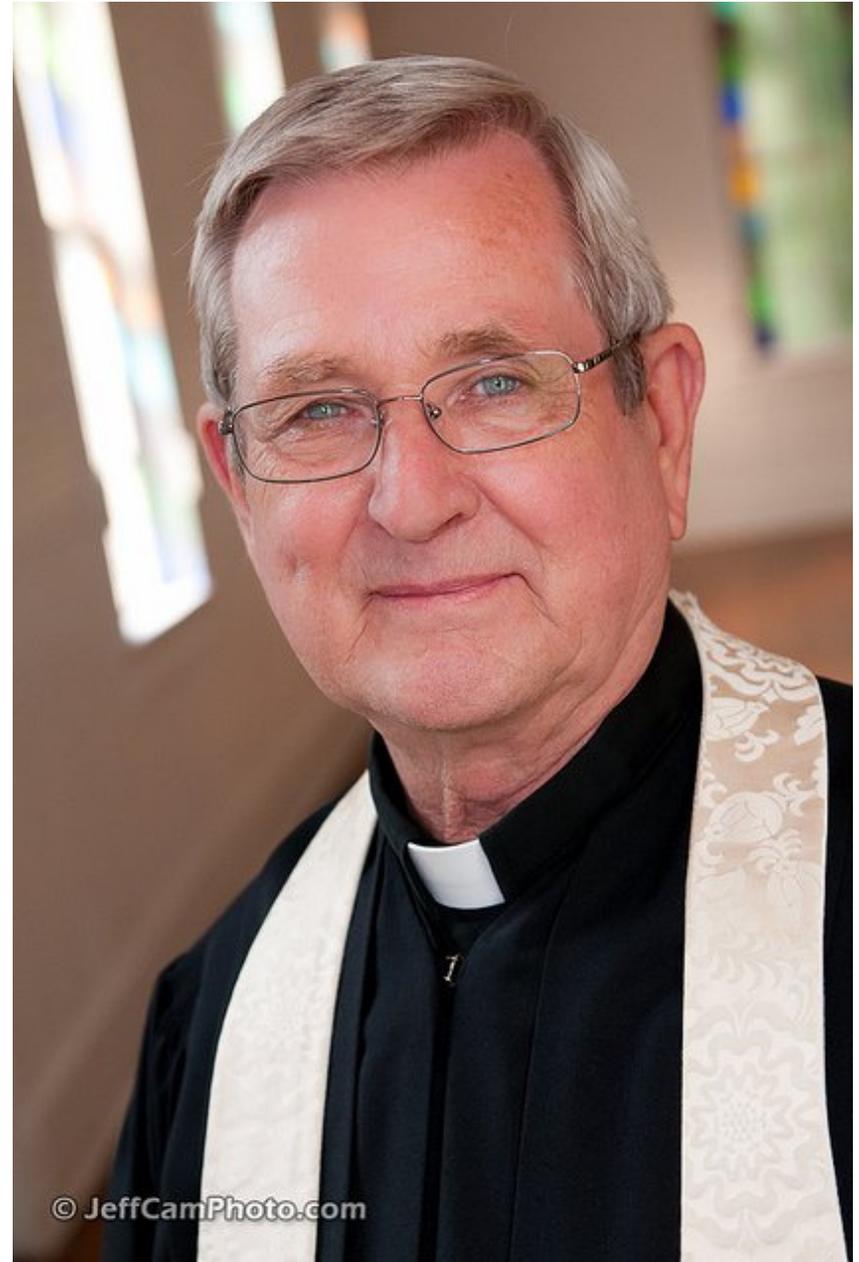
David is survived by his wife, Molly Duncan of Austin, Texas; his daughter and son-in-law, Laura and Stewart Smith and their sons, Ryan and Alex of Springdale, Arkansas; his daughter and son-in-law, Christi and Marty Steele and their son, Cameron, of Austin, Texas; and his daughter, Kendall Duncan of Austin, Texas; his brother and sister-in-law, John B. Duncan and Becky Beaver of Austin, Texas; nephews, Jason Barnett and his wife, Lisa and their children of El Paso, Texas; Nathan Barnett and his wife, Mendy and their sons of Austin, Texas; William Duncan of New York City, New York; James Matthew Duncan of Lubbock, Texas; and niece, Jennifer Duncan and her husband, James Sanders and their daughter of Logan, Utah. He also leaves behind his best canine buddy, Buster, who is forlorn looking for the lap in which he spent so many happy hours.

Contributions in honor of David's memory can be made to Central Presbyterian Church, 200 E. 8th Austin, Texas 78701, or the Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, 100 E. 27th Street, Austin, Texas 78705.



**College Sweethearts**

## **David Christopher Duncan** **March 30, 1939 - October 7, 2012**



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David Christopher Duncan died peacefully at home, surrounded by family and friends, on October 7, 2012. David began and ended each day with a smile on his face, even when the vestiges of cancer required him to smile through the pain. He was the one who was always there through the years to provide comfort with his compassion and wry wit when life became hard and challenges seemed insurmountable. As a brother, he was there tirelessly for his brother and his sister through their debilitating illnesses, with his attention, his love and his immense good humor.

David was born and came of age in Haskell, Texas, on March 30, 1939, and he lived in Haskell until high school graduation in 1957. David and his siblings worked in the family cotton gins in their youth, which diverted him and his brother only occasionally from their otherwise mischievous and ingenious escapades and from his proclivity to torment his sister and her countless pets. He earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1961 from Austin College in Sherman, Texas, where he was a proud member of the Drakes. David was an athlete, known for the quickness he contributed to the Haskell football, basketball and track teams in high school and the agility and energy he contributed to the 'Roos basketball and cheerleading squads at Austin College. It was at Austin College that he met Mary Rachel (Molly) Morriss, who was the love of his life and his constant companion and support. David and Molly celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary last year, and in David's words, "Life has been good with Molly."

David earned a Master of Divinity Degree from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary in 1963, and began his life's work in the Presbyterian ministry after ordination on June 28, 1964. The ministry took David to pulpits at Youngblood Presbyterian in Waco, Belleview Presbyterian in Nashville, Tennessee, Westminster Presbyterian in Lubbock, First Presbyterian in Georgetown and First Presbyterian in Bay City. David then was appointed by the Presbytery an interim pastor, working with many congregations in Texas and Arkansas as they transitioned between ministers. David and Molly "retired" to Austin in 2004, where David served as Parish Associate for Evangelism at Central Presbyterian Church until his death.

During David's years of ministry, he was committed to helping those less fortunate, and was outspoken in his advocacy for economic and political justice, both in his private life and as a member of the Committee on Social Action of the Presbytery. In Nashville, David worked to establish a suicide prevention/crisis call center. During his years in Georgetown, David founded The Caring Place, which continues to provide economic assistance, food, housing, and clothing to families in Williamson County; also while there, he chaired the committee to create the Youth Recreation Program, which had 1250 participants in its first year, and chaired the committee to establish the Meals on Wheels program. David was president of the United Way in both Matagorda County and Williamson County, and was active in the Chambers of Commerce in many of the communities where he served as pastor. He also worked to establish Hospital Chaplaincy programs in three of the cities he served.

David spent many happy times through the years at Mo-Ranch, where he organized the Midwinter Youth Conventions and served as a camp counselor. David also was a commissioner of the Synod, and served on and chaired many committees of both the Synod and the Presbytery, including the Committee on Ministry and Committee on Preparation for Ministry, where he was vocal in his support of equal opportunities in the ministry.

David was at home in the outdoors, and loved to hunt and fish. He inherited his marksmanship from his father, who was also an avid hunter. Many of his happiest days were spent wandering the pastures and rock outcroppings at the family ranch and swinging into the Nueces River from the rope swing there.

David loved all things Longhorn, and was an avid fan of UT baseball, football, and men's and women's basketball. He cheered on the Longhorns literally until the end of his days, watching every minute of the West Virginia game on Saturday night and being visibly irritated by the result.

David was preceded in death by his parents, Belton and Lucille Duncan, his sister, Jean Barnett, and his daughter Danya.