



Old Blandford Church, Petersburg, Virginia {Richard Yarborough's grave marker is bottom center, above.}

Volume 99 Senator Ralph W Yarbrough & Opal Warren Family Records, Remembrances and Letters

Created by Senator Ralph W Yarbrough & Opal Warren

Leonard Yarbrough, Editor

June 2015

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Dedication

Whether we wish to admit it or not, we are the future of our ancestors, as our descendants are our future. We owe our descendants our dreams and bequeath to them the legacy of our collective accomplishments – nothing more and nothing less. To our descendants, we charge you with the honoring of your heritage. Your ancestors were hardy folk, god-fearing and plain spoken, and who recognized that nothing was due them except that which they themselves earned. They were not ashamed to profess their belief in God, their country and the American ideal. Of course, there were a few rapscallions in our collective history, but neither more nor less than in any other family.

We too easily forget what it took to forge a life in a new world, one rife with peril and with little at hand but a steadfast determination to not only survive but to thrive. Our ancestors bequeathed us with their genes, aspirations and talents. It is therefore fitting that the Blandford Series of Yarbrough Family Records be dedicated to them for making it possible for us to be who we are.

To paraphrase Robert Kincaid¹, "The dreams they had were good ones. They didn't all come true, but they were worth having, all the same."

Acknowledgement

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The Yarbrough Association is greatly indebted to the vision and efforts of Cathy Y. Walker and William A. (Bill) Yarbrough, the late president and vice-president of the YNGHA, respectively, for beginning the project to digitize the 150+ volumes of records accumulated over the life of the Association. Fulfilment of the project was through the efforts of a number of officers and members, including Bill's son Mark, Rachel and Don Yarbrough, Hal Yarbrough, Jan and Jim Yarbrough, Ann and Al Bush, Elaine and Lyle Wolf, Joan Y. Singlaub, and Joanne and Bill Augspurger.

It was my privilege to be a part of this dedicated team.

Leonard

Leonard Yarbrough, Editor Blountsville, AL June 14, 2015

¹ The Bridges of Madison County, Robert James Waller, Warner Books, Inc., New York, 1992

Preface

These records are the legacy of our Yarbrough family researchers, to whom much is owed. The known family researchers include Jean Baker, Ann Y. Broadbent, Mary Y. Daniel, Frances (Rea) Donohue, Betty Humrighouse, Pauline Gray, Evelyn Goble, Nelle Morris Jenkins, Ophelia Kessler, Frances Lockwood, Karen Mazock Renee Smelley, Dorothy Svec, Jeanette Wilson, Cleveland "Cy" Yarborough, Edna Yarbrough, George A. Yarbrough, and Robert Price Yarbrough.

The originals of these volumes are being kept for the benefit of future generations by the Williamson County Library, Franklin, Tennessee.

No claims of accuracy or authentication of the material herein are made or may be assumed. Many of these records have been superseded by subsequent research. Hence, there are records which are erroneous and unreliable; it would have been a Herculean task to attempt to correct all of them. Fortunately, there are only a few critical genealogical facts that are involved, and which are correctly stated here:

- Richard (the Immigrant) Yarborough was never married to Frances Proctor;
- Ambrose Yarbrough did not immigrant from Yorkshire; he is now believed to be a descendant of Richard the Immigrant;
- There are so far only two proven sons of Old Richard John and Richard II;
- There is so far no evidence proving Joshua Yarborough I to be a descendant of Old Richard.
- The "Old Country" referred to in old documents and letters is the Colony of Virginia, not England or the Old World.
- There were not seven brothers who immigrated from "the old country"; in fact, it now appears there were three brothers and four sons of the brothers. Which were the fathers and which were the sons are so far unknown.

In spite of these inaccuracies, these records comprise much of our history and some of our accomplishments. There are pages whose print quality is so poor that word recognition was not possible. In spite of that, at least partial capability for searching these volumes is provided, as well as an index to each volume. Nonetheless, the viewer is cautioned to perform his/her own due diligence in connection with any use of this material.

The various spellings of the Yarbrough surname have never been applied consistently, even within a given family. To the extent possible, the names in the index reflect the names used on the source pages; where it wasn't clear as to which might be the proper spelling, the spelling used is "Yarbrough".

The material contained herein is subject to the copyright laws of the United States. Material may be freely used by Yarbrough family researchers so long as proper attribution to the <u>Yarbrough</u> <u>National Genealogical & Historical Association, Inc</u>. is given. This material, in whole or in part, may not be used for any other purposes without the express written permission of the Yarbrough National Genealogical & Historical Association.

We welcome the <u>submission</u> of any Yarbrough family information that can be added to our growing data base. More information about the extended Yarbrough families can be found at our website, <u>http://www.yarbroughfamiy.org</u>. If you are a Yarbrough or a member of one of our allied families, we invite you to join our family association.

1980	FAMILY GROUP RECOR	FAMILY GROUP RECORD-602					
AND Alfred Thomas BRYANT	Dr624		YR OF BIRTH 1858				
Alice Elizabeth 6066A	NS-977		YR OF BIRTH 1857				
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NAME: Lena BRYANT-984 BDRN: 29 AUG 1886 MARR: 11 FEB 1911 DIED: 6 AVG 1964	PLACE: Goodwater,Coosa,Alabama PLACE: Chandler,Henderson.Texas PLACE: Waco,McLennan.Texas	SPOUSE: Archie L	ee YARBRQUGH Sr986				

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1/1/1980	FAMILY GROUP RECORD-	682 Page 1
PUSBAND Alfred Thomas BRYAN	T Dr624	
BORN: 24 OCT 1858 CHR.: MARR: 12 DEC 1878 DIED: 20 JAN 1908 BUR.: Father: John Jay BRYANT-596 Mother: Sarah Ann ROBINSON-6 OTHER WIVES: Prince LAWRE		1
VIFE Alice Elizabeth 6066	ians-977	
BORN: 13 SEP 1857 CHR.: DIED: 12 APR 1900 BUR.: Father: James Peterson 60664 Mother: Mary Jane WORKS-1234 OTHER HUSBANDS:		
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2. NAME: James Jay BRYANT BORN: 24 SEP 1881 MARR: 30 JUN 1907 DIED: 27 DEC 1959	-979 PLACE: Goodwater,Coosa,Alabama PLACE: Chandler,Henderson,Texas PLACE: Pleasanton,Atascosa,Texas	SPOUSE Sunshine YARBRDUGH-997 Sister to Sen. Ralph Yarbrough, O: Texas.
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4 NAME: BRYANT-981 EORN: 1882 - MARR: DIED: 1882	PLACE: Goodwater,Coosa,Alabama PLACE: PLACE: Goodwater,Coosa,Alabama	SPOUSE:
5. NAME: Sallie Valencia BDRN: 3 DCT 1883 F MARR: 28 DEC 1902 DIED: 20 JUN 1957	PLACE: Goodwater,Coosa,Alabama PLACE: Tyler,Smith,Texas PLACE: Hillsboro,Hill,Texas	SPOUSE: James Monroe CONAVAY-1559 My grand mother
Name and Address of Submitten Dianne Conaway Blankenstein 3732 Cork Place Fort Worth, Texas 76116	PHONE:(817) 244-4991	her brother + Sister both m. yarbroughes Somehew bin to Ser Ralphy-line. Ot b no

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Brown County, Texas 1956 - 1985

OPHELIA KESSLER YARBROUGH HISTORIAN BOX 261 NEWCASTLE, TX 76372 240

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YARBROUGH HISTORIAN **BOX 261** NEWCASTLE, TX 76372

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OPHELIA KESSLER YARBROUGH HISTORIAN BOX 261 NEWCASTLE, TX 76372

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arborough, wife mark 90th birthdays

v. Ann Richards (right) joins in singing Happy Birthday nursday night at the Governor's Mansion in Austin to former emocratic U.S. Sen. Ralph Yarborough and his wife, Opal. Both in 90 this week. (Story, Page 29A.)

Ralph, Opal Yarborough given tribute

Former senator, wife celebrate 90th birthdays

By Bryan Woolley

Staff Writer of The Dallas Morning News

AUSTIN — When Ralph Yarborough was growing up in the village of Chandler on the edge of the East Texas Piney Woods, he and some of his 10 brothers and sisters used to play under the sycamore tree with Ray and Opal Warren, the children of the school principal, who lived next door.

Many years later, in 1928, Opal married

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Related photo.

Ralph, but not until he promised never to go into politics.

Thursday evening, nearing the end of the 65th year of their marriage, friends from all over Texas gathered to celebrate the 90th birthdays of Ralph and Opal Yarborough. He was born June 8, 1903, and she on June 12. Their party was on the lawn of the Governor's Mansion, a house that the Yarboroughs tried three times to make their home, but never succeeded.

"I think I put up more yard signs and more telephone pole signs for Ralph Yarborough than any other candidate in my lifetime, including me," said Gov. Ann Richards during the celebration. "... The truth is, they should have lived in this house."

Mr. Yarborough lost gubernatorial races in 1952 and 1954 (when terms of office were only two years) to the incumbent, Alan Shivers, and in 1956 to U.S. Sen. Price Daniel, who was

Ralph, Opal Yarborough riven tribute in Austin for their 90th birthdays

Continued from Page 29A.

called me by the conservative Texas mocratic establishment to opose Mr. Yarborough, the leader. othe party's liberal wing.

Indeed, of nine statewide pomical races he ran after his wife released him from his promise,

Yarborough won only three. t those were for the remainder or Mr. Daniel's term in the U.S. Senate and two terms of his own. ring his 13 years in Washingh, he was among the most devoted warriors for the social and educational programs that would come known as John Kendy's New Frontier and Lyndon Johnson's Great Society. But in 1970, the conservative Demoatic establishment spent \$6 miln — an unheard-of sum at the time — to oust Texas' senior senator and give the nomination to byd Bentsen.

As the sun lowered on a muggy evening, Mr. and Mrs. arborough sat under a large e oak, she in a wheelchair and in an iron lawn chair, his cane propped against a small table bee him. For a while, he would e and shake hands with each cll-wisher who passed, but since the line stretched across e wide lawn, down the corridor the mansion, onto the veranda and down the front steps, he finally had to give up. Although ll hale for a man of nine deces, he wears a hearing aid now, walks with the cane, and his clothes hang loosely on a frail

"The other day, I was going to pick up a box of books," he told the crowd later, "and Opal, who sn't bossed me around much er the years, said: 'Put that down! I don't want you to die be-

fore that Ann Richards party!" While a string quartet from Austin Symphony played on the veranda, the guests, esti"The other day, I was going to pick up a box of books, and Opal, who hasn't bossed me around much over the years, said: 'Put that down! I don't want you to die before that Ann Richards party!' " — Ralph Yarborough

ple love so much that they wore out a phonograph playing it during their honeymoon, Mrs. Yarborough said.

Texas Supreme Court Justice Bob Gammage, acting as master of ceremonies, read a letter from Vice President Al Gore, who called Mr. Yarborough "a legend, even by Texas standards." The vice president's father, Albert Gore, served with Mr. Yarborough in the Senate. Justice Gammage read another letter from David Allred, son of the late Texas Gov. Jimmy Allred. Mr. Yarborough throughout his career, Mr. Allred said, had "worked to put the jam on a lower shelf so the little people could reach it." And representatives of the Yarboroughs' various alma maters — Sam Houston State University, Texas Woman's University and the University of Texas Law School - presented plaques and certificates honoring the couple's public service.

"It's a pleasure to host you in this house, where I'm a temporary tenant and hoping for a longer lease," Ms. Richards told them. "I like public housing, Senator. I've always approved of it."

She presented her guests with a plaque recognizing them as "true Texas heroes" and thanked them "for your great, good kindpunch (the Yarboroughs are lifelong teetotalers) and snapped pictures of one another, as one woman said, "for the good old times."

When the crowd waiting to shake hands finally thinned, someone pushed Mrs. Yarborough's wheelchair down the lawn to a large green-and-whitestriped tent where a podium and microphone had been set up. Mr. Yarborough followed with his cane, pressing the flesh, working the crowd along the way. The quartet played his old campaign song, The Yellow Rose of Texas, and Tea for Two, a song the cou-

Then Justice Gammage handed over the microphone to Mr. Yarborough. "I owe my long life to abstinence from alcohol and tobacco " he began. Although a little weaker now, his rich East Texas voice still rose to the fiery hyperbole that reminded his friends of all those hot Texas summer campaigns of the 1950s — a time when running for office meant making speeches from flatbed trucks and shaking the hands of the electorate in 254 courthouse squares, before the professional TV image-makers made politics a different kind of game.



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You are Cordially Invited to join **Opal Warren Yarborough** and **Ralph Webster Yarborough**

In Celebrating their 90th Birthdays

Thursday, June 10, 1993 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. The Governor's Mansion Austin, Texas



R.S.V.P. by June 3rd (512) 472-8682



YARBOROUGH HOME

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YARBOROUGH HOME OCCUPIED SINCE 1903 BY CHARLES RICHARD AND NANNIE JANE SPEAR YARBOROUGH AND 3 GENERATIONS OF DESCENDANTS. BIRTHPLACE IN 1903 OF UNITED STATES SENATOR RALPH WEBSTER YARBOROUGH. IN THIS HOUSE CHARLES R. YARBOROUGH, AS JUSTICE OF THE PEACE PERFORMED MANY MARRIAGE CEREMONIES IN THIS HOUSE HE AND MAS YARBOROUGH ON JUNE 13 1939 CELEBRATED THEIR SOTH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY. HERE ON JAN.L 1959 HE ADMINISTERED TO HIS SENATOR OF THE UNITED STATES: C.R.YARBOROUGH DIED HERE OCT 24. 1964. AGED 100 YEARS. II DATS.

(p)

Yarbrough Family Reunion

Enjoying dinner at the Yarbrough conference are, left to right, Opal nd Senator Ralph W. Yarbrough of Austin, Texas with Dr. Gil Vatson, pastor of Oak Grove United Methodist Church, who furnished the entertainment for the evening as Joel Chandler Harris and Boyce Yarbrough of Philips Tower who served on the hospitality committee. Yarbroughs spell their names in various ways; Yarbrough, Yarbra ugh, Yarbra are all acceptable.

Yarbrough Family Has Reunion In Decatur

By DOLORES IRVIN

Family reunions have always been fun—a time to remember and see how other "kinfolk" are doing.

The Yarbrough family intends to keep in touch with their "kissing cousins." The Yarbroughs have established a real family conference, which meets regularly. They know that the 1980 census showed 22,000 Yarbroughs.

July 26-28th brought many Yarbroughs to Decatur, for their ninth national conference. Registration show 115 registered from 19 states.

Bill and Reba Rice of Decatur served as hosts for the 1991 conference, which met at the Holiday Inn in Decatur. The guests spent time in sightseeing, and looking over some of the family histories and documents.

The highlight was a workshop conducted by their own archivist and historian, Karen Mozock from Virginia Beach. She brought along some rare books, old land maps and an index of marriages that she and another one attending the conference had worked on.

THE FAMILY banquet on Saturday evening in the ballroom of the hotel brought together most of the Yarbroughs who were registered for the conference.

Lewis Yarbrough from Olympia, Washington, came the longest distance; Leslie Yarbrough who lives only a few blocks away, and Bill and Reba Rice, Decatur, the shortest distance. The oldest was the honor guest 88-year-old, former Senator Roger L. Yarbrough and wife of 63 years, Opal from Austin, Texas. The youngest was their grand-niece 13 year old Wendy from Irving, Texas.

The 1991 conference was dedi-

cated to the memory of Allen Scott Yarbrough, past president, who died last year. His widow and son attended the dinner.

Two others who are deceased and have played a part in this conference were recognized in the printed programs, Founder Robert Price Yarbrough from Charlotte, N.C. and Charles David Yarbrough of Fort Worth, Texas, editor of the Yarbrough Family Magazine.

Master of ceremonies for the program was Bill Rice well known in Decatur for many years for the Rice Store on the Square. His wife Reba was a Yarbrough before their marriage.

Following the dinner, entertainment was furnished by Dr. Gil Watson, pastor of Oak Grove United Methodist Church, who portrays Joel Chandler Harris, author of the Uncle Remus Fables.

SENATOR YARBROUGH spoke to the group, briefly, about some of the Yarbrough memories. He had been to the Carter Center, but missed his friend, former President Carter.

The senator is well known in Democratic circles. This year he has been presented an award of merit from the National Federation of Democratic Women, and several awards from Texas Democratic groups.

Scientist Leonard Yarbrough was introduced. An Antartica mountain range is named for him. This runs across the Equator to the South Pole.

The president of the conference will be Roger Yarbrough of Springfield, Ill. Their next conference, their tenth, will be held at the site of their first, in Petersburg, Virginia.





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TEXAS WOMAN'S UNIVERSITY HERNATIONALIAL UMINAE ASSOCIATIO

Certificate of Recognition

Presented to **新,和我们的有效的**。在

Opal Warren Yarborough

Eona lifetime of achievements, selebratea with miscand, to men al 5 vsenator, Ralph Markorough he occusion of their 90th Virthdavs

An honors graduate in home economics. Opal Yarborough was among the first recipients of the Texas Woman's University Distinguished Alumna Award in 1969. A long-time member of the Capital Area Alumnae Chapter, she is a charter member of the Austin Woman's Federation, and a founder of the Austin Lawyers' Wives Club. Through the years, she has been active in the American History Club, U.S. Senate Ladies Red Cross Group, Democratic Wives Forum, Women's National Democratic Club, Prayer Group for Congressional Wives, and the Texas Ladies Society. With her husband, she has worked for the preservation and restoration of historical materials and sites. -She is honored for her devotion to Texas Woman's University and for a life of exemplary service.

Prefdent, Texas Woman's University

AUSTIN EAR

P.O. Box 26836, Austin, Texas 78755-0836 (512) 346-4022

June 12, 1993

RALPH'S PARTY: It was your typical Austin Democratic bash: at 5 o'clock your feet hurt, and you didn't want to leave the house and fight the traffic and the sun to get there. And by the time you'd shaken hands with the scrubbed, blotched-faced earnest old campaigners from the past, and seen the judges and their ladies, and hugged the pretty dark-haired women, and walked the grass of a starchy, late afternoon garden party at the mansion, then heard the wind sigh high in the trees at Scholz' later, you never wanted to leave.

The Governor put it well as she saluted Ralph and Opal Yarborough under the striped tent. She said the press had asked what the event was about she said "I told them it was a celebration of two important birthdays. (The Senator and his wife were both 90 this month.) "But the truth is, Senator and Mrs. Yarborough," she went on, "that this party is for all of us."

Ann Richards looked around at former Congressman Bob Eckhardt in his white suit and white planter's hat, at rotund Oklahoman Jim Boren, who ran Yarborough's break-through campaigns in '56 and '57, at little 82-year-cld Leonara Speir, whose husband was a security guard at the mansion for Governor Jimmy Allred, at labor leader Roy Evans, at Ralph's veteran staffer Charlie Johnson, at the gnome-like loyalist and Yarborough backer Mike Ethridge, at Houston liberal leader Billie Carr, her once flame-color hair a more subdued blonde these days, at the ground-breaking Judge William Wayne Justice of Tyler and Ruiz case fame. The Governor looked at the Democrats assembled on the hillside across from the granite capitol of Texas, and she told the honorees:

"We don't get to see each other. We don't have any more D.O.T. conventions. We don't get to romp much any more. We don't get to crawl through the bathroom window at the state convention. As a consequence, some of the fun is gone. So, to celebrate your birthday is to bring us together as a family. And, like a family, sometimes we quarrel. But to come together is a joyful thing."

Winging it in a skillful extemporaneous way the Governor seemed to pick up steam as she turned to the Yarboroughs -- Opal sitting in a wheel chair, and Ralph sitting beside her -- and she said:

"It's a pleasure to host you in this house where I'm a temporary tenant, and hoping for a longer lease." (There was laughter.)

"I like public housing, Senator," Richards said in her trumpeting, trade mark tone. "I've always approved of it!"

As she began her remarks, the Governor said the Yarboroughs were a "driving force" behind the principle that you should tell the truth in politics. And she added: "The least we could do is have a birthday party for Ralph and Opal Yarborough because the truth is they should have lived in this house." There was great applause.

II

Ralph Yarborough, who began his political life with a race for attorney general in 1938, and who vaulted out of a conservative state as a liberal U.S. senator in 1957 after three bruising battles for the governor's seat, spoke briefly but with surprising force. The old warrior's voice was reedier than in the days when he could stump with the best of them -- but the upward

- 2 -

they have never been afraid to hope and dream.

This reporter walked past the northeast corner of the mansion grounds, just across the street from the capitol, where out on the sidewalk Henry B. Gonzalez, wearing his white suit, had the nerve to announce for Governor of Texas in May of 1958. We had just read a piece in a labor bulletin about Cesar Chavez. Chavez died this spring at age 66 after working 40 years to organize farm workers. The bulletin said when he died "Brother Chavez was making \$6,000 a year as president of the United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO. He refused to accept more money than his union members made."

V

Over at Scholz Garten, Ralph Yarborough was being honored in another ceremony presided over by State Democratic Chairman Bob Slagle. Yarborough fans chatted and relaxed in the usual fashion, over the foaming pitchers under the trees. Darkness fell and the evening grew cooler. Inside by the bar regulars dropped by Henry Holman's table. Henry was inviting people to HIS birthday party to be held next door at Saengerrunde Hall on Sunday, June 30. Henry will be 80, and it is safe to say Henry and Mary Holman have worked in every Ralph Yarborough campaign, and many of the fundraisers, of the past LO years.

The reporter stepped out of Scholz' onto San Jacinto to go to his car, and over to the left the capitol dome shone brilliantly, seeming right up close, and all the windows in all the state office buildings to the north of the capitol, up Congress Avenue toward the University tower, seemed aglow. The writer turned down the dark side street. Inside the garden, a loose aggregation of young musicians under trumpeter Jim Bryan, who gather there

- 5 -

every Thurday evening as the Wurst Band, were playing "Way Down Yonder In New Orleans." The trumpets sounded very brassy and bumptious and a little hollow behind the trees, the sweet sounds of the reeds and the pumping of tubas coming through.

26-25-25

- 6 -

WHO WAS THERE: Among the hundreds at the by-invitation mansion affair, we spotted: Mrs. Jean Daniel, wife of the late Governor Price Daniel, there wit her granddaughter Marilyn Murph; Carol Yontz, a Yarborough secretary in the D days; Cactus Pryor and wife Peggy; columnist Molly Ivins who, as Senator Yarborough told the crowd he thinks he's reached 90 because he's "not touched alcohol and tobacco", puffed on a cigarette; contractor Earl Trull and wife Louise; beauteous Suzann Madeley; Ken Koock (of the Green Pastures Koocks) an wife Nancy; lawyer Chrys Daugherty and Sarah; lobbyist and former liberal Tex senator Babe Schwartz; Houston's Benton Musslewhite, personal injury lawyer w was in Washington with Yarborough as legislative aide and administrative assi ant; Austin judicial fixture Mace Thurman; Jim Sonntag and Beverly; former Au councilwoman Emma Long, widow of capitol news great Stu Long; former state senator Walter Richter and his environmental Dorothy; fedora-wearing Bill Bak Judge Hume Cofer and Carol; Dr. Tom Moriarty. ALSO: former Texas Agricultu Commissioner Jim Hightower, who said he's on 50 stations with his populist re commentary; Lou Nora Spiller, 94, once the dynamic hub of Yarborough's Austin office; Peg Guarino, also of the Austin office, with husband Marty; Don Moell Texas radio syndicator; Judge Sam Houston Clinton and Hazel; Jamie and Linda Anderson, coffee vendors to the cosmopolitan; Hays County Democrats Bob and Tutta Barton (she's now a Jungian shrink). INSIDE THE PARTY: The mansion event was coordinated by Yarborough friend Bob Gammage, Texas Supreme Court justice, and his wife Lynda. Assisting was Deanna Dicuffa, the Senator's off manager; and Ann Dubose of the mansion staff. Land commissioner Garry Mauro, student of Ralph Yarborough's political style, participated in the ceremonies Austin media man Kevin Kennedy, of the General Services Commission, recorded t speeches. Assisting the Yarboroughs in their rounds was quick-stepping, stor. faced Ralph Collins, Jr., a familiar figure in earlier Yarborough entourages.

NOTES ON A NAPKIN: Never a more flamboyant, light-hearted, dedicated Texas Democrat than Mike Ethridge of Houston and Wimberly. He came despite recent brain surgery. Old laborite Ethridge typically sets up shop outside party cc ventions and such wearing Uncle Sam suits. He confined himself to a large st hat with flowered band this trip. Mike will be 85 on Aug. 14....Jim Boren, Yarborough's chief of staff in Washington, is now political science scholar-i residence at Oklahoma's Northeastern State in Tahlequah. He is also humorous lecturer at large. He is a cousin of U.S. Senator David Boren; also a cousir of the late Jim Boren, the cowboy artist...Hovering about the edges of the da festivities was the politically-encyclopedic, pipe-smoking Dave Shapiro, veteran of six Yarborough campaigns. SUM UP OF THE MANSION PARTY (BY MRS. PAT GUARINO:

"I never saw so much kissing and hugging! I love the way the Governor hugs people!"

vol 1 no 35



THE STATE OF TEXAS

Perhaps no one alive has had such a tremendous influence on our state as Ralph and Opal Yarborough. This dynamic couple has been inspirational for generations of young Texans committed to public service, to equal rights and equal opportunity, and to making Texas the best it could be.

No one has been more dedicated, more passionate, or more eloquent in fighting to guarantee the rights of every Texan. The people of Texas owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to Ralph and Opal Yarborough, whose vision of a future filled with hope and opportunity will last forever.

On the occasion of their 90th birthdays, the people of Texas salute them and thank them for their invaluable contributions to our state.

Therefore, I, Ann W. Richards, Governor of Texas, on this 10th day of June, 1993, do hereby recognize



AND AND

Ralph and Opal Yarborough

True Texas Heroes

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TEXAS & SOUTHWEST

Tribute in Austin honors Ralph, Opal Yarborough

Hundreds celebrate 90th birthdays of ex-senator, wife

By Bryan Woolley

Staff Writer of The Dallas Morning News

AUSTIN --- When Ralph Yarborough was growing up in the village of Chandler on the edge of the East Texas Piney Woods, he and some of his 10 brothers and sisters used to play under the sycamore tree with Ray and Opal Warren, the children of the school principal, who lived next door.

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Many years later, in 1928, Opal married Raiph, but not until he promised never of go into politics. Thursday, year of their mar-riage, friend, year of their mar-riage, friend, from all over Texas gathered to Schebrate the 90th birthdex of Pelho and Opel Narbox birthdeys of Relph and Opal Yarbor, ough He was been Julie 8, 1903, and she on June 12. Their party was on the lawn of the Governor's Man-sion, a house that the Yarboroughs tried three times to make their home, but never succeeded.

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Indeed, of nine statewide political races he ran after his wife released him from his promise, Mr. Yarborough won only three. But those were for the remainder of Mr. Daniel's term in the U.S. Senate and two terms of his own. During his 13 years in Washington, he was among the most devoted warriors for the social and educational programs that would become known as John

Related photo.

Kennedy's New Frontier and Lyndon Johnson's Great Society. But in 1970, the conservative Democratic establishment spent \$6 million an unheard of sum at the time --- to oust Texas' senior senator and give the nomination to Lloyd Bentsen.

1A

As the sun lowered on a muggy evening, Mr. and Mrs. Yarborough sat under a large live oak, she in a wheelchair and he in an iron lawn chair, his cane propped against a small table beside him. For a while, he would rise and shake hands with each well-wisher who passed, but since the line stretched across the wide lawn, down the corridor of the mansion, onto the mansion and down the front steps, he finally had to give up. Although still hale for a man of nine decades, he wears a hearing aid now, walks with the cane, and his clothes hang loosely on a frail body.

"The other day, I was going to pick up a box of books," he told the crowd later, "and Opal, who hasn't bossed me around much over the years, said: 'Put that down! I don't want you to die before that Ann Richards party!'

While a string quartet from the Austin Symphony played on the veranda, the guests, estimated at more than 600, ate finger sandwiches, drank spiced tea punch (the Yarboroughs are lifelong teetotalers) and snapped pictures of one another, as one woman said, "for the good old times.'

When the crowd waiting to shake hands finally thinned, someone pushed Mrs. Yarborough's wheelchair down the lawn to a large green-and-white-striped tent where a podium and microphone had been set up. Mr. Yarborough followed with his cane, pressing the flesh, working the crowd along the way. The quartet played his old campaign song, The Yellow Rose of Texas, and Tea for Two, a song the

couple love so much that they wor out a phonograph playing it durin their honeymoon, Mrs. Yarboroug said.

Texas Supreme Court Justic Bob Gammage, acting as master c ceremonies, read a letter from Vic President Al Gore, who called Mr Yarborough "a legend, even b Texas standards." The vice press dent's father, Albert Gore, servo with Mr. Yarborough in the Senate Justice Gammage read another let ter from David Allred, son of the late Texas Gov. Jimmy Allred. Mr Yarborough throughout his caree: Mr. Allred said, had "worked to put the jam on a lower shelf so the little people could reach it." And representatives of the Yarboroughs' vari ous alma maters - Sam Houston State University, Texas Woman University and the University of Texas Law School — presented pla ques and certificates honoring the couple's public service.

"It's a pleasure to host you in the house, where I'm a temporary tenant and hoping for a longer lease," Ms. Richards told them like public housing, Senator. I've v ways approved of it.

She presented her guests with a plaque recognizing them as "true Texas heroes" and thanked them "for your great, good kindness to us all. We're better people because of you.

Then Justice Gammage handed over the microphone to Mr. Yarbor ough. "I owe my long life to abstinence from alcohol and tobacco. "he began. Although a little weake: now, his rich Bast Texas voice still rose to the fiery hyperbole that re minded his friends of all those hot Texas summer campaigns of the 1950s - a time when running for of fice meant making speeches from flatbed trucks and shaking the hands of the electorate in 254 court house squares, before the professional TV image-makers made politics a different kind of game



Sunday, June 13, 1993 🐯 Austin American-Statesman



Yarborough's made an impact in his 90 years

More than four decades after he first ran for governor, former U.S. Sen. Ralph Webster Yarborough was honored by Gov. Ann Richards on Thursday with a party at the Governor's Mansion. It was in honor of the 90th birthdays of Yarborough (June 8) and his wife of 65 years, Opal (June 12). "The least we could do is have a birth-

"The least we could do is have a birthday party for Ralph and Opal Yarborough — because the truth is, they should have lived in this house," Rich." ards said.

Yarborough was the firebrand progressive politician of the 1950s who carried on the legacy of James Allred, the last progressive governor **Texas** had before Richards.

Yarborough ran against conservative Gov. Allan Shivers in 1952 and 1954 in the Democratic primary and lost. In 1956, then U.S. Sen. Price Daniel Sr. came back from Washington to run, and beat Yarborough by 3,171 votes, out of almost 1.4 million cast.

But then Yarborough won Daniel's Senate seat in a 1957 special election. He held it for 13 years — until Lloyd Bentsen surprised him in the 1970 Democratic primary with a mean and expensive campaign.

During his Senate tenure, Yarborough sponsored or helped bring about the Cold War GI Bill, the Big Thicket preserve, the Guadalupe Mountains National Park and laws on endangered species, civil rights, bilingual education and other programs.

Richards proclaimed him a "True Texas Hero," a candidate of the little people who inspired generations of young Texans — like Ann Richards. She said she "put up more yard signs and telephone pole signs for Ralph Yarborough than any other candidate in my lifetime — including me."

It was quite a birthday party, attended by young and old progressives and liberals from all over the state.

OPINION

U.S. District Judge William Wayne Justice, who ascended the federal bench on Yarborough's recommendation in 1969, got an autograph of a picture of himself and Yarborough at the former senator's 80th birthday party.

senator's 80th birthday party. Former Agriculture Commissioner Jim Hightower, who served on Yarborough's Senate staff, was there. Supreme Court Justice Bob Gammage, who with his wife organized and co-hosted the party, was the master of ceremonies.

Land Commissioner Garry Mauro, who drove Yarborough around the states during his unsuccessful effort in 1972 to regain a Senate seat, told the crowd of several hundred that Yarborough "sowed the seeds that allowed us to elect Ann Richards governor."

A letter was read from Vice President Al Gore of Tennessee, whose father was another Southern progressive in the Senate with Yarborough. Another was read from President Bill Clinton.

Mark Yudof, the dean of the University of Texas School of Law, said Yarborough did more to distinguish the school "than any graduate in our history."

Yarborough worked for Attorney General Allred in the 1920s and 1930s, and followed him to the governor's office. As an assistant attorney general, he won cases that established the right of the Permanent School Fund to bonus and rental payments as well as royalties from the oil beneath land owned by the state. The fund is now about \$10 billion, and about half that amount would not be there but for an attorney general's opinion Yarborough wrote for Allred.

Yarborough also advised Allred to rule in favor of prohibiting the UT regents from spending the proceeds from bonus and rental payments immediately rather than putting them in the Permanent University Fund, where only the fund's earnings can be spent. The result over the years has amounted to about a fifth of the Permanent University Fund, now worth about \$6 billion.

Although Yarborough's races with Shivers and Daniel were bitter, he and Daniel later found common ground in their love for East Texas Native Americans. Although Yarborough has never touched tobacco (or alcohol), he and Daniel figuratively smoked the peace pipe, and became friends before Daniel's death in 1988.

A woman who sat quietly at the edge of the large tent, fanning herself in the heat while most of the people crowded around where Ralph and Opal sat, was Daniel's widow, Jean Houston Daniel.

McNeely, an American-Statesman columnist, covers political issues affecting the state.

G3

San Antonio Express-News

Commentary

Band of friends honors old warrior

We few, we happy few, we band of brothers;

For he today that sheds his blood with me

Shall be my brother; be he ne'er so vile,

This day shall gentle his condition;

And gentlemen in England now a-bed

Shall think themselves accursed they were not here,

And hold their manhoods cheap whiles any speaks

That fought with us upon Saint Crispin's day.

Shakespeare, King Henry V

On Thursday, June 10, there we old Ralph Yarborough lieutenants, we few, we band of brothers and sisters, were on the grounds of the Governor's Mansion only feet away from the room Sam Houston had walked the night before he committed political suicide when he refused to vote to join the Confederacy.

"Sam Houston! Sam Houston!" the clerk of the Secession Convention had bellowed, seeking to intimidate the old man in the hope he would surrender to the hysteria of the mob. But Houston stood his ground. His toga was the Stars and Stripes. Back to the Piney Woods he went and when he died a few years later his last words to his wife were, "Margaret, Texas! Texas!"

Yarborough's birthday

We were assembled on sacred ground, thanks to Gov. Ann Richards, to honor Ralph Yarborough on his 90th birthday. So, too, his wife of 65 years, Opal. The above reference to Sam Houston seems appropriate to me. In my opinion not more than four or five politicians in the history of Texas deserve to be in the company of Houston. Ralph Yarborough, no question about it, is at the top of the list.

The reception line moved slowly. Ralph and Opal were sitting in wheel chairs. Upon reaching Yarporough I gave him a hug not knowing whether to laugh or cry. It isn't often you get to hug an old



senator who was as poor when he left Washington as he was when he first got there.

When the time came to talk Yarborough gave us a laugh. At 90 years with artificial veins he knows life is precarious. He told us, "Yesterday my wife saw me lifting a heavy box. She said, 'Ralph, put that heavy box down. I don't want you dropping dead the day before your birthday party.""

In effect Ralph Yarborough was telling us goodbye and we few, we few, we brothers and sisters who fought with him on St. Crispin's day were telling each other goodbye. You see, there wasn't a spring chicken in the bunch of us.

You young yupples who have never done any serious public service let me tell you what old man Yarborough has done for the country. He was the person most responsible for the Cold War G.I. Bill, the Big Thicket National Preserve, the Guadalupe National Park, and Padre Island National Seashore. For a man from the South he was brave on civil rights. He fought for bilingual education. He was courteous and helpful to black people.

Combat volunteer

Yarborough expressed doubts about the Vietnam War and for that his patriotism was questioned. by Lloyd Bentsen, although Yarborough at 39 resigned from a judicial bench, went off to World War II, saw combat in Europe, and then went on to an important staff position with Gen. Douglas MacArthur in Japan.

When Yarborough was a young lawyer working for Attorney General Jimmy Allred he won the case that established the right of the Permanent School Fund to receive bonus and rental payments as well as royalty payments from oil and gas producing land that belongs to the state of Texas. He was such an unselfish and able lawyer that Mark Yudor, dean of the University of Texas Law School, referred to Yarborough at the birthday party, according to Dave McNeely of the Austin American Statesman, as being the law school's most distinguished graduate.

(You see what happens when a very bright young lawyer refuses to join a big, cold blooded law firm and works instead for the people of Texas? In this regard I hear good things about Dean Barbara Aldave in her efforts to instill in young law students at St. Mary's University Law School a sense of public duty. Some 90 percent of the poor people of Texas do not have their legal needs met. Only 10 percent to 20 percent of Texas lawyers do their duty for the poor. It is a scandal.)

Homestead letter

As good luck would have it, the day before the birthday party in Austin, I received a letter from Ralph Yarborough. Here's part of what he wrote me:

"Congratulations to you and the San Antonio Express-News for your defense of the Texas Homestead Law which has its roots in some magnificent Mexican and Spanish history and which was also born of the experience of the heroes of San Jacinto and their knowledge of what happened to the homesteads in the old states in the Union from which so many had come.

"Texas adopted the Homestead Law, the first English speaking jurisdiction in the world to do so ... it is shocking to know that one of the greatest contributions in laws of American states is now under assault in Texas where it was created.

"The heroes of San Jacinto did not go home and serve in the Congress of Texas perpetrating old forms of greed . . . the recent boom and bust in America of the 80s and the results of that, plus the wreckage of banks and savings and loans are enough to warn Texas



Ralph Yarborough is one of Texas' top politicians.

not to weaken the Homestead Law.

"Now things are booming again, and the boomers who are trying to get hold of those homesteads are lobbying the Legislature . . . the Legislature should reject with scorn these efforts of would be capitalists . . . let's hope Texas does not destroy this heritage for a mess of pottage . . . congratulations to you again and to the Express-News for standing up for the Homestead Law."

Side story

At the Governor's Mansion that day we celebrated Ralph Yarborough there was a side story worth mentioning. Gov. Price Daniel and Yarborough were political enemies in their younger days, but became friends at the last of Daniel's life. Daniel's widow, Jean Houston Daniel, the great, great granddaughter of Sam Houston, was at the Yarborough celebration. Her presence added a special touch to the occasion.

(Up above her head was the balcony where her famous ancestor used to sit, now and then nursing the ankle wound he took at San Jacinto. Surely the spirit of Houston was with us that day at the Governor's Mansion.)

Yarborough joked about death, but we his lieutenants, his band of brothers and sisters who fought with him on St. Crispin's Day, know a secret I want to share with you: On the day Ralph Yarborough joins the ghost riders in the sky Sam Houston will be waiting for him at the Pearly Gates.

Maury Maverick, a retired civil liberties lawyer, is a former Texas legislator and a former university instructor in political science. M/M Ernest H. Gunn 919 West College Sherman, Texas 75090 21 JUN Strain (2003)

> Dear Ralph and Opal...running late with gratitude from Erenst and me for your lovely, lovely invitation to your birthday celebration and the outstanding program.

I want to say "Thank You" for having extended the invitation to Sue and Sam. She had canceled a church meeting and he a business appointment to accomidate us. Your thoughtfulness made much added pleasure for the four of us. They enjoyed and deeply appreciated the opportunity to attend this impressive event. As Austin residents it held special meaning to each of them.

There will never be another family high-point occasion which could mean as much to me as this one. You two have been outstanding servants to our State, our Nation and even our World. I hold deep gratitude that members of my blood line could have made such immeasurable contributions. No one there that evening could have held deeper pride in you than I.

I'm grateful to Governor Richards for having given you this high honor in the state mansion. It was not only the honor but the joy which she irradiated in so doing. Shecarried your party as high as the state could offer.

Inadequate, are adjectives to convey our appreciation for all this unique and eventful evening held for us. Now, we will relive each minute and treasure it from here forward. Just keep on having those birthdays.

Ralph, we had a business trip to East Texas upon our arrival home. We then were in Dallas for a visit with our daughter. As soon as time permits I will fulfill your request I was not privileged to be around Aunt Nannie very much but my memories of her are beautiful ones.

Sherman, Texas 75090 919 West College June 19, 1993



A JOURNAL OF FREE VOICES

We will serve no group or party but will hew hard to the teath as we find it and the right as we see it. We are dedicated to the whole truth, to human values above all interests, to the rights of human-kind as the foundation of democracy: we will take orders from none but our own conscience, and never will we overlook or misrepresent the truth to serve the interests of the powerful or cater to the ignoble in the human spirit. Writers are responsible for their own work, but not

for anything they have not themselves written, and in publishing them we do not necessarily imply that we agree with them, because this is a journal of free voices.

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EDITORIALS

The Yarboroughs at 90

look out and I see Texas heroes, Land Commissioner Gatry Mauro said to the crowd gathered on the lawn of the Governor's Mansion to celebrate the 90th birthdays of Ralph and Opal Yarborough - born four days apart to neighboring families in Henderson County in 1903. In the crowd there were a number of people who had made Texas and the nation a better place: Federal Judge William Wayne Justice, former U.S. Congressman Bob Eckhardt, civil rights lawyer Maury Maverick, labor lawyer Chris Dixie and others who had been at home in the Yarborough wing of the Texas Democratic Party - the wing of the Democratic Party where Governor Ann Richards began her political career almost 40 years. "We're a family," Richards said of those gathered at the mansion. "And like most families, we quarrel from time to time. But it's important that we come together like this. ... And this is the least we can do for them," Richards said of the Yarboroughs. "The truth is, they should have lived in this House." Richards was referring to Yarborough's failed campaign for Governor in 1954.

Ralph Yarborough has done more to bring honor on the UT Law School than any other graduate in its history," said Mark Yudof, dean of the law school.

There have been few like him, certainly none from Texas. Looking at the frail but voluble Yarborough sitting in a wheelchair on the stage, I was reminded of the night he arrived in Houston, escorting Wisconsin Senator Eugene McCarthy in 1968.

To a huge anti-war, pro-McCarthy crowd gathered at Hermann Park, Yarborough talked of the cold calculus of the Vietnam War: tens of thousands dead and wounded and "bilyons and bilyons," as Yarborough would say, of dollars spent on the military. What could those bilyons achieve invested in medical schools in Texas?

"I had so many people sacrifice for me," Yarborough said at the mansion, reflecting on his career. "Your work put me there and made it possible. ... and for 13 years and eight months I tried to repay the people."

Repay the people Yarborough did. A partial list of his achievements are a monument to and for the people who three times elected him to the United States Senate:

• In 1957 he voted for civil rights legislation and seven years later voted for the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

· He was a co-sponsor of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

• In 1965 he was also author the Cold War G.I. Bill, which provided job training. college scholarships and home and farm loan guarantees for 7 million post-Korean-War veterans

• In 1966 he pushed for the expansion of the federal minimum wage, increasing it to \$1.60 by 1968 and extending it for the first time to farmworkers.

· His Bilingual Education Act provided federal funding for bilingual education.

• He was the author of the Padre Island National Seashore and the Big Thicket National Park acts, and was the Senate author of the Guadalupe National Park and Fort Davis National Military Park acts.

If First Lady Hillary Clinton really wanted to put a form on the phrase "politics of meaning," recently made popular by thinking journalist Michael Lerner, she could do no better than look to Ralph and Opal Yarborough.

From the podium in front of the Governor's Mansion, Texas Supreme Court Justice Bob Gammage talked of the Yarboroughs' 65th wedding anniversary, only a few days away, and of a time when Ralph and Opal Yarborough packed their belongings into their car and drove to El Paso, where Mr. Yarborough had found a job. "I understand there was a sond that yound couple was s fond of that they wore the record out on the trip to El Paso," Gammage said. There was something exceptionally touching when the string quartet beside the podium struck up "Tea for Two," as the nonagenarian Yarboroughs sat holding hands and looking at one another.

"I remember going in and telling him that if he voted for Carswell [Harold Carswell, Nixon's appointee to the Supreme Court] there was no way he could win the election because he'd lose East Texas," former Yarborough Senate staffer Benton Musslewhite said as we walked toward the gate. "The next week he voted against Carswell. And Bentsen ran a race-baiting campaign in East Texas, claiming Carswell's defeat meant the black man was going to take over the country, And we lost East Texas," Musslewhite said. But nothing could stop the Senator from voting against an appointment like Carswell, Musslewhite said.

"We all knew he would do it." - L.D.

From acentin Daily June 11 1993 Jollmon celebration for

Capital briefs

Pickens is undecided on running for governor

From Staff and Wire Reports

T. Boone Pickens is pondering whether to make a switch from the boardroom to the Governor's Mansion. But the Dallas oilman and head of Mesa Ltd. said he'll only get serious about running for governor if the price of natural gas goes up. Pickens, a Republican, said his business has delayed him before from running for office. "I've wanted to run. I wanted to run in '86, and I wanted to run in '90, and I'd like to run in '94," he said. Gov. Ann Richards, a Democrat, is up for re-election next year. George W. Bush, managing partner of the Texas Rangers, also has been named as a likely GOP contender.

Babbitt to attend local ceremony

U.S. Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt is scheduled to attend a ceremony today in which Gov. Ann Richards will sign into law a bill to regulate pumping from the Edwards Aquifer. The aquifer, sole source of drinking water for San Antonio, extends 176 miles under six counties. The Legislature was forced to come up with a plan to regulate pumping after a federal judge ruled that rare fish, salamanders and plant life that feed off of the underground water source needed protection. Babbitt had urged adoption of the plan.

One winning ticket sold for lotto

The \$10 million Texas Lotto drawing held Wednesday night had one winner. The ticket that matched all six winning numbers was sold in North Texas, lottery officials said Thursday. The numbers are: 10-16-23-25-40-45. Authorities said 131 tickets matched five of six numbers for a payoff of \$1,792. Tickets with four of six winning numbers are worth \$88 dollars. The jackpot for Saturday's drawing is an estimated \$3 million.

Officials to welcome ship replicas

Gov. Ann Richards and Spanish Ambassador Jamie de Ojeda are scheduled Saturday to welcome replicas of Christopher Columbus' ships to their



Staff photo by Karen Warren

90th birthday, for two

Former U.S. Sen. Ralph Yarborough and his wife Opal, celebrate their 90th birthdays and 65th wedding anniversary at the Governor's Mansion. U.S. District Judge William Wayne Justice stands at left.

new home in Corpus Christi. The ships will be sailed from Naval Station Ingleside to the Barge Dock adjacent to the Art Museum of South Texas. A Parade of Sails will escort the replicas as they are moved to the dock. The ships are being placed for 50 years at Corpus Christi by the Spain '92 Foundation, thanks to a \$100,000 grant from the J.E. Smothers Sr. Memorial Trust Foundation, set up by Doris McCord Smothers in 1990.



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Season's greetings

Ralph and Opal Varborough














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ABBREVIATIONS USED

antebefore	bborn
caabout	ddied
<i>cf</i> compare	burburied
e.gfor example	mmarried
ex.colfrom the collection of	BkBook
<i>ibid</i> in the same book	VolVolume
i.ethat is	ppage
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loc.citin the place cited	nonumber
op.citin the work cited	nosnumbers
postafter	nnote, footnote
sicin such manner	n.dno date
supraabove	MSmanuscript
<pre> word(s) omitted</pre>	TStypescript
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NOTE

Comments made by the editors will be enclosed in [brackets]. To conserve space the editors are referred to by their initials: CDY, JSY. Also, the "Yarborough Family Magazine" is cited herein by giving the volume number, "YFM," and the page number; e.g., this page is cited as 1 YFM 86.

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OPHELIA KESSLER BUX 261 NEW CASTLE, TX 76372

Rea Bonohue 1206A W. 4th Breckenridge, TX 76024 P.O. Box 12023, Capitol Station Austin, Texas 78711 30 April 1967

Dear Reader:

In this issue, our thickest to date, we have continued our article on the Yarborough coat-of-arms. Also, as well as other selected Tennessee materials, we have published about one-third of the 1880 Tennessee Yarborough census material. The remaining thirds will be published in subsequent issues. You native Tennessee Yarboroughs should be able to find your ancestors in some of this. Good luck.

The next issue will be the last issue of Vol. I. In it we shall include an index and corrections for the volume and an evaluation of our first year of publication.

Regretfully, we must report that Mr. Robert Edward Yarbrough of Meridian, Mississippi, to whom the second issue of Vol. I (see 1 YFM 29) was dedicated in honor of his 100th birthday, passed away on 14 February 1967 at the age of one hundred years, four months, and eleven days from complications following pneumonia and two strokes. A telegram from his great grandson, Bryant Edward McDonald, a student at Princeton, to relatives at home, expressed the feelings of the entire family: "Dear all, I share with you your sorrow on the loss of the Head of our family and a great Christian man. Big Papa was always an inspiration to me, and now that he is gone 1 wish 1 could have been closer to him. We would all do well to follow his example of friendliness, humility and Christian Dedication. We are blessed with the memory of an uncommon man."

In a speech given by U.S. Senator Ralph W. Yarborough before a joint session of the Texas State Legislature in Austin, Texas on 17 April 1967 the following remarks were made: "My immediate ancestors and family have lived in Texas for 120 years. There were Yarboroughs, a branch of our family, in Houston's army at San Jacinto...." Now, who says that genealogy and politics don't mix?

Sincerely,

Charles and Jean Yarborough

Sound-Off Yarborough with, without two 'o's'

Ralph had busted out of West Point and came to Texas to take law. He had two books on surveying that he had used at West Point and since I was taking engineering I bought them from him. I had noticed years ago that he was now spelling his name with two "o's" instead of one. I took a couple of Polaroid pictures this morning of his signature in the two books and am enclosing them Chas. M. Woodman

5019 Indigo Strand PC Thank you for the prints. The signatures seem

authentic but are not quite clear enough to reproduce here. $\lambda = \lambda^{-1}$ Ralph Webster Yarborough says he spelled his name with one "o" until some time in the 1920s.-He changed after his older brother showed him a copy of a family Bible in which his grandfather Harvey Yarborough's name was spelled with two "o's." Since then, Yarborough says, he has found his grandfather's signature, with two "o's;" in several places - including his bond as a county coroner in Alabama, his Confederate States of America Army records, and from the minutes of the Hopewell, Smith County, Texas, Baptist church, where he was clerk for several years before and after the Civil War.

Harvey Yarborough died when Ralph Yar-



borough's father was young, the boy grew up as an orphan, and the first "o" got lost during that time. — Editor.



Aren't any more like Yarborough

NYBODY WHO is old enough to remember Texas politics in the late 1960s knows that there was no more exciting campaigner than Ralph Yarborough, the former U.S. senator sent packing by Lloyd Bentsen in 1970 after a tough, bitter race.

I thought of Yarborough several months ago as I watched Ann Richards deliver her speech before the Democratic state convention, an address that was about as inspiring as a funeral home commercial.

I couldn't help grieving for the longgone days of Yarborough and others in both parties — who could rally a crowd to near hysteria with the sheer force of their ideas and idealism.

There are so few of that type of orators around. Mario Cuomo comes to mind, but he's not a Texan. Jim Hightower comes close, but without his one-liners you don't have much.

Given today's politics, it is probably safe to say that we'll never see any more people like Ralph Yarborough. The image-makers, the pollsters and the campaign consultants will make certain of that.

But Yarborough's strength derived from more than in his oratorical style. Liberals of today yearn for someone like him with strong beliefs and a willingness to fight for those beliefs, regardless of the consequences.

The conservatives liked him because he was easy to hate. Unlike today's Democrats, he wore the Democratic label as a badge of honor.

No loss for words

As I've watched the dreadful daily dose of political commecials on television, I've often wondered what someone like Yarborough, now 87, thinks of the current state of affairs. In many ways, after all, the 1970 primary battle was a harbinger of today's campaigns: mean, dirty and expensive.

Predictably, Yarborough was not at a loss for words when asked to comment in a recent telephone interview from his Austin home. "Money is subverting politics," he said. "When both sides can spend millions of dollars, the issues take a back seat."

According to Yarborough, Congress is a good example of what's happening to American politics. People go there, not to serve the public, but to line their pockets

"It is going to destroy democracy if it is not stopped," he said. "The people have got to rise up and demand that it be stopped. It's got to be driven home that democracy is being bought out." About the only people who don't realize that costly campaigns are counterproductive are the politicians and their advisers, he said. The more expensive the races, he pointed out, the lower the turnout.

"It's turning people off because they are losing confidence in politicians," he said.

The profusion of money contributes to the negative tone of campaigns, Yarborough thinks. With so much money, candidate staffs can spend hours researching an opponent's background until they come up with ammunition for their negative ads.

People like it dirty

"But people seem to like that kind of campaigning," he said. "Sex and crime. Sex and crime, just like TV."

Yarborough also mourns the trend in recent years among Democratic candidates to downplay their party affiliation, noting that only two statewide candidates this year, Hightower and Supreme Court chief justice candidate Oscar Mauzy, use the word Democrat prominently in their campaign literature.

He blames political consultants and pollsters — another result of too much money — for that.

"These candidates would be stronger if they identified themselves as Democrats," he said. "Nobody was afraid to say they were Democrats when I was running."

Yarborough still harbors hard feelings about his defeat. He rues having waited too long to leave his Washington duties to campaign and he resents even more the tactics used by Bentsen against him, especially the TV ads that tied Yarborough to the 1968 riots in Chicago and elsewhere, and questioned his patriotism.

"I don't sit around being a vindictive person," he said when asked if he had forgiven Bentsen. "But I don't sit around forgiving anybody who calls me a traitor to my country."

Still, Yarborough does not hesitate to say that he would urge young people to go into politics.

"We need them more than ever," he said. "But they've got to be idealistic. They need to put their lives on the line

and really fight for people and not just worry about making money."

Any takers?

OPHELIA KESSLER BOX 261 NEW CASTLE, TX 76372

News and Features

STATE

Grand old man of liberal polit Maverick Yarborough inspired generation of r

By JAN RICH Special to the Chronicle

USTIN — Ralph Yarborough has lost more political battles than he ever won and made some powerful enemies that would have crushed a less tenacious man.

The fact that Yarborough, the grand old man of liberal Democratic politics, has survived to celebrate his 85th birthday and is still active in the Democratic Party is testimony to a combative spirit that served him well.

His legacy as a champion of liberal social causes in the U.S. Senate inspired a new generation of Democratic politicians like Agriculture Commissioner Jim Hightower, a former aide to Yarborough, and Land Commissioner Garry Mauro, who worked in Yarborough's final bid for the U.S. Senate. Even state Treasurer Ann Richards got her political start working on Yarborough's unsuccessful gubernatorial campaigns in the 1950s.

Yarborough won some hardfought wars that rendered to Texas billions of dollars in education funds and thousands of acres in parkland.

For the nation, he was instrumental in providing the GI bills that helped send millions of servicemen to college after World War II, in providing Medicare and Medicaid funding and for libraries in public schools, universities and remedial schools. Yarborough passed more national legislation than any U.S. senator from Texas during his Washington tenure from 1957 to 1971.

But legislative success came at a high price. Yarborough was frequently at odds with established Democratic politicians like former President Lyndon Johnson and former Texas governors John B. Connally, Price Daniel and Allan Shivers.

He argued to Johnson against the Vietnam War and was branded a communist during one unsuccess-



Bob Daemmrich / Special to the Chronicle

Buchanan Varharough Hilling his grandfathar candles on the occasion of the former United

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* * * KINSMAN AND FORMER SENATOR RALPH W. YARBOROUGH IS RECUPERATING AT AUSTIN, TEXAS, HOME AFTER EXTENSIVE HEART SURGERY AT CHRISTMAS TIME * * *

Yarbrough kinsman, patriarch and former U.S. Senator Ralph W. Yarborough is recuperating at his Austin. Texas, home after extensive heart surgery on December 22, 1987. He was dimissed to his home at 2527 Jarratt AV, Austin, TX, 78703, on Tuesday, January 5.

The three-hour operation, performed by Dr. John "Chip" Oswalt of Austin at the Seton Medical Center, included an aortic value replacement and a quadruple cardiac artery bypass. By Christmas Eve Senator Yarborough was reported in stable condition and breathing on his own without mechanical assistance. On Sunday, December 27. Texas State Radio News Network and Comanche (Texas) TV reported "Yarborough making steady progress and up walking about his room."

Frances Lackwood of Comanche, TX, kinswoman and NYC director, and John Yarborough of Irvin, TX, nephew

and honorary director, kept the news sheet editor advised. The editor learned of the illness through the nationwide broadcast of Paul Harvey, famous radio commentator of Chicago. Members of the Texas family gathered at the medical center in Austin during the operation and hospitalization.

The 84 year old Democrat seemed in vigorous health at recent appearances. His dark hair had finally turned silver, but he was ready to launch into a stemwinder at a moment's notice. Called "a true gentleman of the old school" by a kinsman, he had been the most welcomed and appreciated principal speaker at all five National Yarbrough Conferences, beginning with the first at Petersburg, Virginia, where the family honored the immigrant Richard Yarborough. Conferences have been held at Nashville, TN; Fort Worth, Charlotte, NC, and St. Louis, with the 1988 session set for late July in Memphis, TN.

On December 17, Senator Yarborough had attended Christmas parties given by the Texas AFL-CIO and the Texas Trial Lawyers Associations. He and his wife, Opal, had planned on going to Washington to spend Christmas with their daughter-inlaw, Mrs. Ann Yarborough, widow of their only son, Richard, and their grandchildren. The former senator usually works at his law office in Austin on Saturdays. Saturday the 19th he told his wife he didn't feel like going to the office, and a 1 p.m. she called the emergency vehicle to take him to the hospital. A spokesman was quoted saying "There was a question of whether he would pull through on Satturday night."

Yarborough, a native of Chandler in East Texas, was the fiery leader of the liberal wing of the frequently feuding Democrats. He served in the U.S. Senate from 1957 to 1970, when he was defeated by Lloyd Bentsen Jr. He was the only southern senator to wote for the 1964 Civil Rights Act and was a champion of national Senator Yarborough was chairman, of the Senate Labor Committee and author of legislation that created the Padre Island National Seashore. He rode in the second car of the Dallas motorcade in which President John F. Kennedy was struck down by an assassin's bullets in November 1963. Yarborough might have been riding in the car with Kennedy but far a long standing feud between Yarborough and Vice President Lundon B. Johnson and the Democratic Governor John B, Connally. The senator and his wife are affectionalely known as "Uncle Ralph" and "Aunt Opel", endearments stemming from their nephew, the late Charles D. Yarborough, founder and publisher of YARBOROUGH FAMILY MAGAZINE, and a founder of NYC. "Uncle Ralph" loves his conference banquet subject, the Yarbrough Family. He is well versed in our English heritage, studying history and relics and having been a guest in the halls of the present day family English descendants. The, he likes to explore and interpet the many myths and legends of the American Yarbrough Family as passed down by grandfathers and fathers.

The Yarbrough Family of the United States wish "Uncle Ralph" and "Aunt Opal" well.

Ralph Yarborough leaves hospital

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AUSTIN (AP) — Former U.S. Sen. Ralph Yarborough went home from Seton Molical Center co-Tuesc 19 Networks after undergoing Statistics

bypass surgery, hospital spokeswoman Pat Korbus said. Yarborough, 84, also had an aortic valve replaced during the Dec. 22 heart surgery. He has asked that media calls to his home be delayed until late in the week or the weekend, Korbus said.

Yarborough, a Democrat, was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1957 and served until he was defeated by Lloyd Bentsen in the 1970 Democratic primary.

Yarborough alert after heart surgery

By The Associated Press

AUSTIN — Former U.S. Sen. Ralph Yarborough was doing well on Christmas Eve at Seton Medical Center, where he underwent quadruple bypass surgery this week, his cardiologist said.

"Senator Yarborough is sitting up and is ambulatory now. His prognosis is excellent," said Dr. George Lowe in a statement.

Lowe described Yarborough, 84, as alert and in good spirits. The former senator was expected to be moved from the intensive care unit by Christmas morning, Lowe said.

Yarborough, whose aortic valve also was replaced, suffered no heart damage in the Tuesday surgery, Lowe said.

"He is inquiring about how quickly he can get back to his law practice," the doctor said.

Sunday, January 19, 1992

Scholarship honors a Texas legend

The heartbeat of Texas politics ulsed in a Four Seasons Hotel anguet room.

Longtime power brokers and lawmakers like former Ambassaor to Australia Edward Clark, 85, and U.S. **Rep. Jake Pickle**, 78, were there.

So, too, were folks relatively oung in age and few in years on he state power scene, such as **Gov.** Ann Richards, 58, Land Commissioner Garry Mauro, 43, and Lt. Hov. Bob Bullock, 62. (Although Bob's statehouse days date back to (1957.)

Ann, Bob. and Garry are camaign chairmen of a fund drive onoring a Texas legend — former U.S. Sen. Ralph Yarborough, 88. The event celebrated the cretion of the Sen. Ralph W. Yarborugh Endowed Presidential Scholarship in Law at the University of Texas School of Law under ts dean, Mark Yudol.

Steering committee chairman Ed Clark announced its goal of \$1 million. UT prez **Dr. Bill Cunning**ham promised UT will kick in another \$500,000, regents willing.

And let's add to Ralph's fine public service record a little known tory from **Regina Rogoff**. She's he executive director since 1983 of the Legal Aid Society of Central Texas.

Last fall the society celebrated ts 25th anniversary.

But, Ralph wrote Regina, legal aid in Travis County actually dates back 52 years — and he spearheadd its establishment.

In 1940, Ralph was a district judge and Travis County Bar Association president. He proposed a <u>egal-aid society</u>, which was "biterly opposed by the bar as being 'socialistic.'

"All the big (law) firms opposed

t... we won by about one vote. "Later the Congress passed laws setting up free legal aid for indigent people."

Adds Regina, "We've dated the egal-aid society to 1966, which is when we received 'federal funds. Now we can come back in three rears and celebrate our 55th inniversary!"



Former U.S. Sen. Ralph Yarborough, joined his wife, Opal, and grandson Jeff at at the Four Seasons Hotel recently at an event celebrating the creation of a scholarship in Ralph Yarborough's name.

Yarborough scholarship created

This section is recyclable

Gov. Ann Richards, Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock and Land Commissioner Garry Mauro are co-chairing efforts to create a University of Texas law scholarship in honor of former Sen. Ralph Yarborough. Supporters of the fund will gather Saturday night at the Four Seasons Hotel to honor Yarborough, 88, who graduated from the UT School of Law in 1927 and served in the U.S. Senate from 1957 until 1971. The fund, which has a goal of \$1 million, will provide scholarships to students specializing in environmental and public service law.

Dedicated to Democrats Man devoted his modest life to campaigns and fund raisin

By Matt Curry Special Writer

Jessie Denton was devastated when liberal U.S. Sen. Ralph Yarborough was unseated by fellow Democrat Lloyd Bentsen in 1970. A further blow was

Yarborough's primary loss to Barefoot Sanders in June 1972.

Denton, who didn't own a car or telephone and lived modestly by all accounts, wanted to do his part to help Yarborough pay off a massive campaign debt.

So when the former senator appeared at a fund-raiser at the old Underwood's restaurant on Jacksboro Highway, Denton showed up too -with a bag of money, according to longtime friend and Democratic Party activist Fee Wheeler.__

Denton was found de his modest stucco home San Antonio July 10. H apparently been dead si days. He was 63.

Those who knew Dento he lived a private life, an

Please see DENTON.

Denton was mystery even to own family

Continued

From page one

his one love was the Democratic Party and its candidates. He believed Yarborough was second only to God and supported labor although he never was a member of a union. Wheeler said.

Little else is known about the longtime Wichita Falls resident.

He was recognizable to many Wichita Falls residents who had spotted him walking in various parts of the city. He collected aluminum cans and took Christmas dinners at Faith Mission, Wheeler said.

He lived on a government disability check, said nephew James Denton of College Station, one of two surviving relatives. He held a job as mechanic and general custodian at Falls Bowl on East Scott until 1971, said Wanda Harasimo, a desk clerk there.

"It was kind of weird," she us he was only going to work X number of years. He said when he had all the money he needed, he would quit. And that's what he

He may have been born in Electra, James Denton said.

did."

"He had dropped out of our lives when we were babies. We had lost touch with him until 1984. He was a very private person. He built a shell around himself and lived in his own world. He was a very unusual person," he said.

"He was a total mystery," added Wheeler.

But Wichita County Democrats knew Denton as a dedicated worker and a storehouse of information on local, state and national politics.

"He was a stalwart as far as activities of the Democratic Party were concerned," said Harold White Jr., county chairman. "He was a tireless worker and not a complainer. Even if others considered a job unpleasant, Jessie wasn't that way."

Denton would spend hours at Democratic headquarters, atremembered Monday. "He told taching telephone numbers with lists of precinct voters.

"Jessie was a very learned person, very intelligent and he

affairs," White said.

"He was a walking encyclopedia," Wheeler said.

Many were surprised by his depth of knowledge, state Sen. Steve Carriker, D-Roby, said.

"He could give you the number of votes Harry Truman got from the South Carolina delegation at the 1948 Democratic convention," Carriker said.

"And there are very few people interested in doing the work Jessie was willing to do the nuts and bolts of successful campaigns. Those kind of things are mostly done now with contract labor. Jessie would do it for the love of politics."

"He did all the thankless jobs nobody wanted and he did them well," agreed state Rep. John Hirschi, D-Wichita Falls.

"He bought a few groceries and household staples," Hirschi said. "He lived on an income level most people consider to be abject poverty, but he lived the life he wanted to live."

Still, Denton sometimes became painfully aware of his appearance, Wheeler said. He beenjoyed staying on top of current came hesitant to attend a City

Council election victory party for David Farabee because he didn't have nice clothes to wear, she said.

"He was crying about that one day when I went to pick him up. He said, 'I don't fit into that crowd. I don't look right,' " she recalled.

Wheeler told Hirschi about the conversation, and Hirschi took him to a store and bought him a new pair of pants for the occasion, she said.

Denton emerged from his home that evening wearing his new slacks and a grin, she said. "'I look a lot better,' " she recalled Denton saying.

"If I had to explain Jessie, I'd say a political genius and a social misfit," Wheeler said. "But he tried awfully hard to do the right thing. He was the last of the real, true Democrats. He worshipped the party. He thought it was the only thing that existed."

Arrangements are for Denton are pending with Hampton-Vaughan Funeral Home. Survivors include two nephews, James Denton of College Station and John Denion of Hico.

RACE AND CLASS IN TEXAS POLITICS

Chandler Davidson

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PRINCETON UNIVERSITY PRESS PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

MYTH OF OVERWHELMING CONSERVATISM

and prisons. Conservatives have taken the opposite position on these questions, although once liberals prevail, the liberal position is frequently accepted and becomes, over time, part of the wisdom of the status quo.

Most people are liberal on some issues and conservative on others. As an East Texas legislator once put it, "I'm a mix of Jerry Falwell and Jim Hightower," referring to the right-wing founder of the Moral Majority and the liberal Texas agriculture commissioner, respectively.²⁴ But when confronted with a choice between two candidates, one liberal and the other conservative, voters make a choice. In so doing, one predisposition wins out over the other. Too, a sizable number of voters organize their preferences into a more or less consistent pattern and come to think of themselves as predominantly liberal or conservative. These people tend to make up the ideological core of the two opposing political camps, which become clearly distinguished over time in the mass media.

This list of issues demonstrates that the liberal-conservative conflict in Texas is quite similar to its national counterpart. Indeed, there are very few issues that have created controversy nationally that have not filtered down to Texas, where the intensity of the conflict is sometimes even greater than that generated nationally. This may result from the fact that a handful of colorful politicos have captured the imagination of the two ideological factions and have personified their values over an entire generation.

Among the postwar conservatives, Shivers and Connally, both forceful governors who went on to exercise influence nationally—Shivers as president of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Connally as cabinet member and adviser in Republican administrations—stand out as the embodiment of Texas conservatism. Both intelligent and charismatic, they were born poor and got rich quickly, gaining acceptance as peers among the upper class. Both were active in the conservative wing of the Democratic party and later in Republican circles.

Republican Senator John Tower was certainly a conservative too. Once asked if "he could think of a single domestic legislative program of . . . John F. Kennedy's to which he could give support," Tower could not.²⁵ But he lacked the charisma and personal followings of Shivers and Connally. The same might be said for other postwar conservative governors— Beauford Jester, Price Daniel, Preston Smith, Dolph Briscoe, and Bill Clements. Mark White, perhaps best described as a moderate conservative while governor, also fits this description.

The single most influential and popular liberal in the history of Texas politics is undoubtedly Ralph Yarborough, who was a major force on the political scene from the time he lost his first governor's race against Shivers in 1952 to his failed bid to regain a U.S. Senate seat in 1972.²⁶ Between 1952 and 1972 Yarborough mounted eight statewide campaigns—three

CHAPTER 2

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unsuccessful ones for governor and five for the U.S. Senate, three of which he won. He rallied liberals and their moderate allies across the state in grueling, underfinanced, acrimonious campaigns that spanned a period of great political upheaval—a time in which the civil rights movement shook the racist foundations of the South; Joe McCarthy and his allies, many of them Texas-based, fueled a widespread anti-Communist hysteria; the Kennedy and Johnson administrations aggressively restructured government spending; and the Vietnam War and its concurrent issues of black militancy, student unrest, and the "lifestyle revolution" split the liberal coalition in its period of triumph and finally led to Yarborough's defeat.

A list of Yarborough's major accomplishments during his thirteen years in the U.S. Senate elucidates the nature of the Texas liberal agenda and underscores Yarborough's effectiveness once in office. An article in the Dallas Morning News, a base for some of his bitterest critics, opined shortly after his defeat in 1970 that "his name is probably attached to more legislation than that of any other senator in Texas history."27 Sitting on several important committees, including Labor and Public Welfare, of which he eventually became chairman, Yarborough was the guiding force behind numerous major bills.²⁸ He played a primary role in enacting the Cancer Act of 1971 that launched the federally financed "war on cancer." He was a major sponsor of the Occupational Safety and Health Act, which passed over President Nixon's veto; the Community Mental Health Centers Act; laws to aid the education of handicapped children and to increase hospital and health care; and others benefiting veterans, disadvantaged children (such as that which created the Head Start program), the elderly, and the poor.²⁹ Shortly before his defeat in 1970, he introduced his comprehensive health insurance bill, modeled on Sweden's health insurance plan. Edward Kennedy, who succeeded him as chairman of the Health Subcommittee, picked it up.³⁰

Yarborough was one of the most aggressive and effective champions of environmental legislation in the U.S. Senate. Between 1957 and 1971 he was the author, coauthor, or active sponsor of all the major environmental bills to pass that body.³¹ He was given primary credit for passage of the Endangered Species Act. Of the eleven national parks, historical sites, or recreation areas existing in Texas in 1978, six were the result of first efforts by Yarborough.³² He was the prime mover behind the creation of the 78,000-acre Guadalupe Mountains National Park, the 85,000-acre Big Thicket National Preserve—acquired in spite of intense opposition from East Texas lumber interests and their political retainers—and the 74mile-long Padre Island National Seashore.³³

Within months of his election to the Senate, Yarborough became one of only five southern senators—including LBJ—to vote for passage of the momentous Civil Rights Act of 1957. Three years later, he was one of four



4. Ralph W. Yarborough. The outstanding Texas liberal leader of the postwar period, Yarborough was a U.S. senator from 1957 to 1971. Here he speaks at a campaign rally in Paris, Texas, in one of his campaigns for governor in the 1950s. Courtesy of the Barker Texas History Center.

southern senators—again voting with LBJ—to support the Civil Rights Act of 1960. In 1964, by supporting passage of the most far-reaching civil rights bill since Reconstruction, he stood alone among the senators of the eleven states of the old Confederacy. His fellow Texas senator, John Tower, opposed it. Yarborough was one of only three southern senators and the only one from Texas—who voted for the Voting Rights Act of 1965, and one of four supporting the 1968 open housing bill.³⁴

He was a vocal opponent of the Vietnam War by 1968 and criticized the Chicago police force's rampage against antiwar demonstrators at the 1968 Democratic convention. The same year, he backed Eugene McCarthy's antiwar presidential campaign by introducing him to audiences in Texas.³⁵ And in 1969, when President Nixon attempted to place on the Supreme Court Clement F. Haynsworth, Jr., a southern judge opposed by the civil rights community, Yarborough was one of two southern senators opposing his nomination. When Nixon then nominated yet a second judge opposed by civil rights forces—G. Harrold Carswell—Yarborough was one of four southern senators who opposed him—an act that would haunt him later that year when Lloyd Bentsen made the Carswell vote a central issue of his successful campaign to defeat Yarborough.³⁶

CHAPTER 2

It was in the field of educational reform, however, that Yarborough acquired an enduring reputation. On the Education Subcommittee of the Senate's Committee on Labor and Public Welfare, he was a force behind nine major bills, including the National Defense Education Act of 1958, which laid the groundwork for federal aid to education; and the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, which extended federal support to public schools below the college level.³⁷ The Cold War GI Bill, which subsidized the training and college education of millions of veterans serving after January 31, 1955—and who were thus not eligible under the Korean War benefits program-was first introduced by Yarborough in 1958 and was passed through Yarborough's tenacity in spite of opposition from Presidents Eisenhower, Kennedy, and Johnson.³⁸ Yarborough's Bilingual Education Bill, passed by Congress, provided federal funds for schools with numerous students from non-English-speaking backgrounds. He was author, coauthor, or active sponsor of every major education bill passed by Congress during his Senate days.³⁹

Yarborough, in short, was the embodiment of the post-New Deal liberal spirit in Texas. About the only area in which he parted company with a good many liberals was oil policy.⁴⁰ Both his supporters and his opponents in the electorate at large had a fairly good idea of where he stood on the major issues of the day, and he was anathema to the conservative business establishment, which spent great sums to ensure his defeat in 1970.⁴¹

The period of liberal resurgence following World War II, then, can be seen as another era in which major issues involving the distribution of goods and opportunities came to the fore in Texas politics. At critical moments over the past 150 years, Texans have squared off over fundamentally important issues dealing with race and economic justice. When this has happened, the progressive faction has been able to mobilize a considerable proportion of the state's voters. Were it not for the underrepresentation of the progressives' natural constituency in the electorate, they would have won more victories than history records. And as has been shown regarding both the pre-Civil War and the post-Populist eras, the lower voter turnout in the progressive camp was closely tied to election laws and practices that discriminated against the poor and ethnic minorities.

A Culture of "Folk Conservatism"?

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 Given the facts so far, why is the perception widespread that Texas is an overwhelmingly conservative state? Conservatives self-servingly portray themselves as spokesmen for a homogeneous conservative population.

The American South South A Historical Bibliography Volume I

Introduction by John B. Boles

Jessica S. Brown Editor



Santa Barbara, California Oxford, England

The American South

Volume I

a promoter of the Tuskegee Institute type of education and in association with the Phelps-Stokes Fund of New York, yet he "operated independently and affectively to promote the vision of a new Africa which would include a system of higher education equal in quality to that anywhere in the world." 65 notes.

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G. R. Schroeder

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THE AMERICAN SOUTH: A HISTORICAL BIBLIOGRAPHY VOL. I

reader appeal while senators emphasized tangible accomplishments. Based on content analysis of five newspapers and responses from a questionnaire, and on primary sources; 2 tables, 13 notes.

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K. J. Puffer

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4398. Grant, Philip A., Jr. EDITORIAL REACTION TO THE 1952 PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY OF RICHARD B. RUS-SELL. Georgia Hist. Q. 1973 57(2): 167-178. Senator Richard B. Russell (d. 1971) announced his candidacy for the Democratic presidential nomination on 28 February 1952. Although President Harry S. Truman had not indicated whether he would seek reelection, Russell's move was a southern conservative protest to many of the president's key domestic legislative proposals. Russell was overwhelmingly praised by the press but virtually none predicted woxess for him. 58 notes. D. L. Smith

4399. Grant, Philip A., Jr. TENNESSEE CONGRESSMEN DUR-ING THE EISENHOWER ADMINISTRATION. West Tennessee Hist Soc. Papers 1978 (32): 103-109. Tennesseeans in Congress dunng 1953-61 included seven House members (Howard H. Baker, St. James B. Frazier, Jr., B. Carroll Reece, Clifford Davis, Tom Murray, J. Percy Priest, and Jere Cooper) and two senators (Albert A Gore and Estes Kefauver). As chairmen or senior members of important congressional committees, these congressmen were identified with significant legislation or well-publicized investigations. Stetches the major congressional work of each. Based on congreswonal publications; 4 photos, 41 notes. H. M. Parker, Jr.

4400. Grant, Philip A., Jr. THE 1948 PRESIDENTIAL ELEC-IION IN VIRGINIA: AUGURY OF THE TREND TOWARDS REPUBLICANISM. Presidential Studies Q. 1978 8(3): 319-328. In 1948, the Democrats in Virginia were divided over the presidential momination of Harry S. Truman whose unpopular civil rights platform prompted the formation of the States Rights Democrats supporing South Carolina Governor J. Strom Thurmond for President. With the split in the Democratic Party, Republican candidate Thomas E. Dewey threatened to carry Virginia. Provides a countyby-county analysis of the vote and attributes Truman's 28,716 plurality to Thurman's weak 10.4% showing and Dewey's failure to ampaign in the state. Truman's unimpressive victory is seen as a precursor of future Republican presidential wins in Virginia. Table, 41 notes. S. C. Strom 4401. Grasmick, Harold G. SOCIAL CHANGE AND MODERN-ISM IN THE AMERICAN SOUTH. Am. Behavioral Scientist 1973 16(6): 913-933. Values lag behind industrialization due largely to the early socialization experiences of older southerners. S

4402. Grass, Randall. THE STRUGGLE FOR A LIVING/ LEARNING COMMUNITY. Change 1974 6(8): 51-54. Relates the history of Duke University's communal Student House for Academic and Residential Experimentation, 1970-74.

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4404. Green, Archie. KERRY AWN'S SOAP CREEK SALOON CALENDARS. JEMF Q. 1908 16(57): 24-35. Traces some changes in "progressive country" or country rock music in Austin, Texas, through the cartoon illustrated calendars, "each a self-contained commentary on popular culture within the Austin setting," by Kerry Awn done for the Soap Creek Saloon from 1970 to 1980.

4405. Green, Archie. MICHAEL ADAM'S HONKY TONK PAINTINGS. JEMF Q. 1982 28(67-68): 155-165. Discusses the country music art of American painter Michael Adams, especially his 1977-79 oils depicting Texas honky tonk bar scenes.

4406. Green, George N. MC CARTHYISM IN TEXAS: THE 1954 CAMPAIGN. Southern Q. 1978 16(3): 255-276. Reviews the Texas gubernatorial race of 1954. Governor Allan Shivers, who had defected to the Republican Party, was running for a third term against Ralph Yarborough, who mounted a strong campaign appealing to liberals, workers, and public-spirited men. Shivers raised the spectre of Communism, which was much in vogue at the time, although Texas was notoriously poor soil for that ideology. Racism also was used; the Supreme Court decision of that year which mandated school integration aroused Shivers' wrath. Yarborough took a more moderate position, which weakened him. Shivers won the election primarily because Yarborough's legions failed to vote in sufficient number. McCarthyism, dead or dying elsewhere, was shown to be still very much alive in Texas. 34 notes.

V. L. Human

4407. Greene, Juanita. WHAT'S HAPPENED TO FLORIDA'S BEACHES? Southern Exposure 1982 10(3): 24-26. The beaches are threatened with erosion and especially from the buildings that prevent beach renourishment; and environmental legislation that would protect them, like the Save Our Coast program of 1981, are undermined.

4408. Greenstein, Robert. WHY SIX MILLION POOR SOUTH-ERNERS CAN'T BE FED. New South 1973 28(1): 43-51. The federal government's food stamp program is beyond the means of many poor southerners. S

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HUMANITARIAN AWARD



Senator Ralph Yarborough

From 1957-1971, Ralph W. Yarborough served in the United States Senate. He was known as "The People's Senator." He earned that title by working long and hard for legislation and effectuating governmental policy changes that would help people. Bill Moyers said, "His enduring determination to accomplish good for his fellow citizens has placed him high in the pantheon of statesmen."

Senator Yarborough made significant contributions to the cause of human rights by the legislation he was able to pass while in the United States Senate. He has a long record of achievements in many areas, but his efforts in education, health, conservation and public works and help for veterans are outstanding. He views his passage of the "Minimum Wage Increase and Expansion" in 1966 as one of his greatest efforts. For the first time the minimum wage was extended to employees in retailing, laundries, restaurants, hotels, hospitals and agricultural workers. It was called the "Widows" amendment because it covered so many low-paying jobs which women usually held.

A World War II veteran, the Senator is also proud of his Cold War GI Bill which was introduced in 1958, passed in 1966 and amended in 1968. It allowed the inclusion of widows of soldiers killed in combat, wives of permanently disabled veterans and their minor children to get an education. He points out that these two achievements helped defeat him later but said, "If you want to help people, you have to stick your neck out."

He stuck his neck out on health issues by passing legislation to create the National Cancer Authority. Sen. Yarborough was chair of the Senate Labor and Public Welfare Committee from 1969-71. He was also chair of the Health Subcommittee. He gained a reputation for his forward-looking legislation and ability to get health bills passed.

The University of Texas honored him in 1990 as a Distinguished Alumnus. He claims the best happening in his life is that his wife, Opal, has stuck with him for 62 years. They had one son and now have two granddaughters and a grandson.

Senator Yarborough has returned to a private law practice, but he continues to help his many friends and to make a significant contribution to the Democratic Party and its candidates. His love of history makes him a favorite speaker. A Texas House of Representatives resolution in 1989 said of him, "He has earned a well-deserved reputation as an enlightened thinker, a tireless advocate of the rights of others and a man of duty and conscience."

FIRST ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER PROGRAM

WELCOME Je INTRODUCTION OF OFFICERS INVOCATION: Group singing of "America the Beautiful"

Jeanie Stanley, President

Karol Rice

Dinner will be served

RECOGNITION OF HONORED GUESTS SPONSORS ELECTED OFFICIALS CLUBS Anne Mauzy

AWARDS PRESENTATION

CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION

Awards Committee: Anne Mauzy, Gay Erwin, JoAnn Jenkins, Carol Nasworthy, Clara Lou Sawyer

SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD

Helen George

Congressman Mickey Leland (accepted by his mother, Mrs. Alice Rains)

Sandra Martinez **OUTSTANDING MEMBER** Jeanie Stanley, Ph.D. Justice Oscar Mauzy HUMANIT'ARIAN AWARD Senator Ralph Yarborough Lieutenant Governor **OUTSTANDING ELECTED Bob Bullock** DEMOCRATIC WOMAN Governor Ann Richards Lieutenant Governor Bob Bullock Jeanie Stanley INTRODUCTION OF NEW OFFICERS BENEDICTION: Group singing of "Texas Our Texas" Karol Rice "God Bless America" Dessert will be served during the Social Hour AWARDS DINNER COMMITTEE Sandra Martinez Dorothy Gunn Anne Mauzy, chair Anna Marie Palmer Gloria Gunter Debra Berry **Beverly Roberts** Mae Jackson Tricia Bosak Clara Lou Sawyer Dana Kervin Betty Condra

THE EDGE OF THE WEST AND OTHER TEXAS STORIES

by Bryan Woolley

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Texas Western Press The University of Texas at El Paso I first met Ralph Yarborough during the torrid, dry summer of 1956, when I was an eighteen-year-old reporter for The El Paso Times and he was running for governor of Texas against Price Daniel. He didn't have time for a sit-down interview, but he let me ride in the car with him while he roamed El Paso County, looking for votes. The driver was a fellow named Gootch, I remember, and he sped Yarborough and me to cotton gins, shopping centers, anywhere there were hands to be shaken. At a barbeque and political rally in Ysleta, Yarborough made the best stump speech I've ever heard. And between stops, while Gootch was burning up the highways and byways of the county, Yarborough talked to me, and I listened.

More than thirty years, dozens of political campaigns, and hundreds of interviews later, that remains one of my most memorable days as a reporter.

I didn't see Yarborough again until 1983, when I interviewed him for this profile. He had changed hardly at all.

NOTHING BUT PEOPLE

On election night in 1957, when Ralph Yarborough was elected to the U.S. Senate, an Austin lobbyist dropped by his campaign headquarters, where a victory celebration was in progress. "It was amazing," he told reporters later. "There wasn't a big shot down there - nothing but people."

A framed enlargement of the newspaper story chronicling the lobbyist's astonishment still hangs on the wall of Yarborough's Spartan law office in downtown Austin. It's surrounded by dozens of autographed pictures of presidents and astronauts and Indian chiefs and plaques and certificates of appreciation and stacks and heaps and piles and mounds of books and documents relating to the long life of Ralph Webster Yarborough and his adventures among the political giants and trolls of Texas and Washington.

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It has been a life spent battling "big shots," and losing more often than winning. Of his nine statewide political races between 1938 and 1972, Yarborough won only three. And during the thirteen years in the Senate that those victories gave him, he dedicated himself with a rare energy and eloquence to "nothing but people," a stance that ended his Washington career when his influence was at its peak and still makes his name an anathema in the board rooms and fat cat clubs of Dallas and Houston and Austin.

In 1970, the Texas business and political establishment spent \$6 million – an astronomical sum at the time – to unseat its state's senior U.S. senator and give the Democratic nomination to Lloyd Bentsen, a rich man from the Rio Grande Valley. Some of Bentsen's TV commercials during the campaign featured the riots at the 1968 Democratic National Convention in Chicago. They hinted that Yarborough – a declared opponent of the Vietnam war – was somehow responsible for them. The Texas Democratic electorate apparently believed it.

Such things had happened to Yarborough before - in 1952, 1954, and 1956 - so regularly, in fact, that Yarborough's years in the Senate were for a long time regarded by weary and embittered Texas liberals as an aberration, a freakish outbreak of grassroots democracy in a state ruled openly, with only the faintest lip service to The People, by The Establishment and its Big Money.

"Lyndon Johnson had all the money he needed for any kind of operation he wanted to run," Yarborough says. "I had practically none. I could raise a little and borrow some to run, but the minute the campaign was over, I couldn't raise money to pay the debts off. I was in debt all the time. I had no resources. My older brother, who was practicing law in Dallas, urged me not to run for political office. He already saw that Dallas syndrome. You can't beat that money,' he said. They'll buy it every time.'"

Ralph Yarborough is about to turn eighty. He looks maybe sixty. He's still trim for a man of his stocky build and walks quickly, with a spring in his step. His brown hair has aged

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silver-gray, but his dark eyes are clear. They still flash when he's riled. A movie casting director searching for someone to play a Southern senior senator or elder statesman could do no better. His mind is still an encyclopedia of law and Texan and American history and statistics and political anecdotes. They fill his conversation, and when his talk turns to the preoccupation of his life - the eternal battles between The People and Big Money and between expedience and integrity in politics and government - his rich East Texas voice still rises to the fiery hyperbole that distinguished his hot Texas summer campaigns of the 1950s - a time when running for office meant making speeches from flatbed trucks and shaking the hands of the electorate in hundreds of courthouse squares, before the professional TV image-makers decreed that anger and emotion are political liabilities, before a candidate for public office became simply another brand of soap to be sold. "He will not hire high-pressure hucksters to direct a campaign," says a Yarborough campaign biography written for his 1957 Senate race. "He does not belittle their effect; he knows what they can do, and he has the scars to prove it. But patently their job is to corrupt the judgment of the electorate; and that, he sees, is evil."

"Evil" is a word that has almost disappeared from the American vocabulary. It's an old-fashioned "hot" word that doesn't fit into the bland, "cool" political vernacular that TV has created. But Yarborough's hellfire-and-brimstone denunciations of those he considers evil and his belief in some kind of cosmic justice seem refreshingly strong and deep in a time when slickness and shallowness have replaced courage and ideals in so many public figures.

"This James Watt wants to detribulize the Indians and take their reservations," he says. "He calls them socialists. Hell, they've got minerals, and Watt wants the fat cat Republicans to have them. He's the most vicious son of a bitch, next to Reagan, who has ever held a high office in our government."

"We're fixing to build an Army base in Honduras," he says, "to operate against Nicaragua. It's going to be Vietnam all over

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again, except those countries are so small and close by that we probably can kill them off."

"I'm not super-religious," he says, "but I believe if you abuse people long enough, you're going to pay the penalty for it. I believe there are forces of retribution in nature."

Such thoughts are direct descendants of the Baptist sermons and Populist-influenced Democratic stump speeches he heard in his youth in his home village of Chandler, in Henderson County, on the edge of the Piney Woods. He was born there in 1903 to Charles Richard Yarborough, the local justice of the peace, and his wife, Nannie Jane. He was the seventh of their eleven children. Both his grandfathers were Confederate veterans, and the talk around the family supper table was of Texan and Confederate history. It was there that Yarborough began his hero-worship of Sam Houston, who, like Yarborough, always was a fighter against long odds. Under the sycamore tree in the yard, Yarborough and his brothers and sisters played with Ray and Opal Warren, the children of the Chandler school principal, who lived next door. Yarborough went to school in Chandler, then graduated from Tyler High School, twelve miles away, in 1919. Congressman Jim Young appointed him to the U.S. Military Academy, but after a year there, Yarborough decided against a military life.

He was only seventeen when he came home to become a school-teacher at Delta, and then at Martin Springs, tiny oneroom schools where some of the pupils were twenty-five years old. "There was no state aid to schools then," he says, "and each community had to tax its own resources for schools. The railroad went through Chandler, so we could tax the railroad and have seven months of school a year. But those kids six miles away from the railroad had only three months of school a year, because those tenant farmers didn't have much to tax. I taught all grades from first through eighth, all in one room. One year I had the ninth grade, too."

When school wasn't in session, Yarborough took courses at Sam Houston State College in Huntsville, but never got his degree. "Then he got the tickle-foot," his old campaign

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biography says. "Sometimes it is a way of young men that they must put a passel of miles behind them in a great search before finally they find what they are looking for — that is, find themselves." He was one of that American generation that wandered the earth after World War I, obeying the same impulses that took F. Scott Fitzgerald and Ernest Hemingway to Europe. He worked his way from New Orleans to France on a French cattle boat, hoping to attend the Sorbonne, which rejected him. So he wandered on to Berlin, attended the Stendahl academy for a year and worked for the American Chamber of Commerce. He laughs at the memory now. "People don't usually think of me as a Chamber of Commerce man," he says, "but I once was."

By 1923 he wanted to come home, but the European docks were crowded with young Americans trying to get maritime jobs that would get them across the Atlantic. He worked his way across the English Channel, and in Britain had better luck. As he was standing on a dock with a crowd of job-seeking Americans one day, a ship's agent called out, "Anybody know about handling horses?" and Yarborough sang out, "I'm from Texas!" He got the job, nursing a shipment of horses across the sea. Then he joined a wheat threshing crew in its migration though Oklahoma and Kansas, saved his wages, got engaged to his childhood playmate, Opal Warren, and in the fall went to Austin, where he got a job in a boarding house and enrolled in the University of Texas School of Law. In the summers, he worked - building oil tanks at Borger during the wild boom of 1926, as a librarian and quiz master at the university. He graduated in 1927 with highest honors and intended to go back home and run for county attorney.

"I had been engaged to Opal for three years," he says. "Back in those days, you didn't get married and then start to college. You went to college first. And I was in debt and desperately looking for a job. The easy, preferred way for a young lawyer to get started in those days was to be county attorney. Then you either became district attorney or went out and started practicing. But it so happened that of the fifty-three of us who

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graduated from the law school that year, three of us were from Henderson County. The other two were from Athens, the county seat, and I was from a little town twenty-five miles away in the northeast corner of the county. They both decided to run for county attorney, so it was foolish of me to think of running against them with no money and in debt when they were where the votes were."

There was another reason he didn't launch his political career immediately. When he announced to his fiancee that he might run, Opal said, "If you run, the wedding is off. I won't marry a man in politics." He dropped the whole subject for ten years, found a law job at the other end of the state, in El Paso, that paid \$150 a month, came back to East Texas in 1928, married Opal and moved her west. Fifty-five years later, they're still happily married. In 1931 their only child, Richard — now a Washington lawyer — was born.

Yarborough became an expert in land law and was assisting one of his firm's senior attorneys in a case involving the boundary between Texas and New Mexico. For about twenty miles, the Rio Grande is the border between the two states, and the river had changed course, leaving some formerly New Mexican land on the Texas side. New Mexico sued. When the senior lawyer suffered a heart attack, his young assistant had to argue the complicated case through the courts, then before a committee of the Texas Legislature, then before Texas Attorney General James Allred. Allred was so impressed with Yarborough's argument that he not only ruled in his favor, but offered him a job as an assistant attorney general. Yarborough accepted. And later, when Allred was elected governor - "the last progressive governor that Texas has had," Yarborough calls him - he appointed Yarborough to fill a vacant seat as a Travis County district judge, a post to which he was later elected in his own right. Opal changed her mind about politics, and he took a brief leave from the bench to run for attorney general in 1938. He lost to SMU's All-American quarterback, Gerald Mann.

When the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, Yarborough joined the army and was commissioned as a captain. "I was too old

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for the draft," he says, "but I had attended West Point for a year, and I decided I had a duty to go." He fought in Europe with the 97th Division under Patton and Eisenhower, then went to the Pacific and served under MacArthur. By now a lieutenant colonel, he ruled the central Honshu Province – oneseventh of Japan's land and people – under MacArthur's military government. By the time he got home, he had decided to try politics again. Politics in Texas in those days meant Democratic politics, since the Republicans had no more chance of being elected than the Prohibitionists or the Vegetarians. The Democratic Primary in July, not the General Election in November, put candidates into state offices. And, in those days, the terms of those offices were only two years. An election was barely over before candidates began gearing up for the next one.

"I was planning to run for attorney general in 1952," Yarborough says. "John Ben Shepperd was secretary of state, and he was going to run for attorney general, too. So I was walking down a corridor in the Capitol one day, and Gov. Allan Shivers stopped me and said, in a very friendly way, 'Ralph, I understand you're thinking about running for attorney general. I don't think it's advisable. They've already decided who the next attorney general is going to be.' By 'they,' he meant The Establishment. He wasn't saying, 'You don't run.' He wasn't bombastic at all. He was trying to put on his best friendly manner. Well, he didn't convince me not to run. But I started getting calls from people in East Texas, saying, 'Listen, Ralph, Shivers is unpopular. He would be easier to beat than John Ben Shepperd.'"

So Yarborough announced as a Democratic candidate for governor and became the lifelong enemy of The Establishment. He called upon the voters to save themselves from Shivers' "money-centered political machine bent on treachery to The People." He accused Shivers of disloyalty to the Democratic Party. (Shivers later supported Eisenhower in the 1952 presidential campaign.) He accused the Shivers administration of doing nothing to help the small farmers and ranchers who were being

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driven into foreclosure by the terrible drought of the 1950s. And he accused the Shivers administration of corruption. "They were selling insurance company charters," he says. "If you wanted an insurance charter, you paid the administration's bag man. They had different prices, depending on the size company you wanted. A lot of crooked insurance companies were cropping up in Texas. But I couldn't stir up the press. All the city newspapers were against me. Newspapers are big business, too, of course. They're part of The Establishment."

In a bitterly fought campaign, Yarborough got 36 percent of the vote. Shivers was re-elected. But by 1954, discontent with his administration was getting heavier. Two more years of drought had wiped out hundreds of small farmers and ranchers. "And the corruption didn't end," Yarborough says. "It was getting worse, and it was seeping out around the cracks. After they thought they had me polished off, they got more brazen. Dallas had twice as many insurance companies as any other city in the United States, and Dallas wasn't a very big city in those days. They were fly-by-night companies. A lot of them were going broke and trimming their policyholders." Yarborough called for a "complete investigation of the insurance mess" and accused the governor of allowing "fixers and influence peddlers to operate in Austin."

He had pulled together the old Democratic coalition of union labor, small farmers, ranchers, businessmen, and minorities and had carried the fight to a Democratic Establishment that was beginning to look more and more like Joe McCarthy's brand of Republicans. He ran a close second in the primary "but they pulled it out in the runoff," Yarborough says, "with 'The Port Arthur Story.'"

"The Port Arthur Story" has to rank as one of the dirtiest tricks in the history of even Texas politics. In November 1953, 430 CIO Port Arthur retail workers had gone on strike against their stores, demanding recognition of their union. During the primary, Shivers had railed against the unions as "Communistdominated." "While I know my opponent is not a Communist," he said of Yarborough, "I feel that he is a captive of certain

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people who do not approve of being tough on Communists." During the runoff, a TV film called "The Port Arthur Story," produced by Shivers' staff, accused the CIO of "personally supervising the death of a city" and portrayed the deserted streets of Port Arthur — an apparent ghost town. Shivers charged in his broadcasts that what had happened in Port Arthur could happen anywhere in Texas if Yarborough became governor. A network of Red unions was being erected all along the Gulf Coast, he claimed; "the pushing of a single button in Moscow" would paralyze Texas, and Yarborough was sympathetic to the unions. Later, a member of Shivers' staff admitted that the film of the deserted streets was shot at 5 a.m.

"It was a terror campaign," Yarborough says. "It scared the thunder out of people, scared the hell out of them. The few country editors who supported me had the windows broken out of their buildings."

Shivers won again, but Yarborough's strong showing against him and the continuing corruption in his administration damaged him badly. The insurance scandal was joined by another, this one involving crooked land deals by the state Veteran Land Board. Two of the three members of the board were Shivers and Attorney General Shepperd. And the drought was worse than ever. "Shivers was planning to run again in 1956," Yarborough says, "and I knew in my bones that I could beat him this time. But The Establishment pulled him out and brought Price Daniel home from the U.S. Senate to run against me. He had two years to go on his Senate term, so he was safe. If he lost the governorship, he'd still be a senator and would have two more years to prepare for another campaign."

By 1956 school desegregation had become a red-flag issue throughout the South, and two rabid racists, Panhandle rancher and author J. Evetts Haley and former governor "Pappy" Lee O'Daniel, also threw their hats into the ring. Haley promised to send the Texas Rangers to shut down any public school system that tried to desegregate. O'Daniel called the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Brown vs. Board of Education* "Communistinspired" and ranted about "blood running in the streets." Price

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Daniel's speeches sounded as if his opponents were the NAACP and "Walter Reuther of the CIO." Liberal Texans sponsored racially integrated political rallies in a few cities, but Yarborough was the only gubernatorial candidate who would speak to them.

It was a blistering, drought-ridden summer, and he stumped the state from El Paso to Orange, from Dalhart to Brownsville, preaching to the sweating crowds about justice for The People and reform in Austin. "I loved those hot summer campaigns, when the primary was in July," Yarborough says. "Campaigning wasn't as much fun after they moved the primary up to May." In the runoff, Price Daniel beat him by fewer than five thousand votes. Yarborough still talks of stolen boxes and burned ballots, but The Establishment had won again.

However, Daniel's Senate seat was vacant now, and a special election had to be held to choose a successor to complete his term. According to Texas election law, there would be no runoff. Anyone of any party could enter, and the man polling the most votes would win, whether he had a majority or not. Yarborough promptly announced his candidacy and - to the embarrassment of The Establishment - quickly became the favorite against Congressman Martin Dies, the Red-baiting former chairman of the House Un-American Activities Committee, and Thad Hutcheson, a young Republican. The Establishment, led by Senate Majority Leader Lyndon Johnson and Governor Daniel, urged the Texas Legislature to change the election law in the middle of the campaign, so that a runoff would be required. The purpose of the scheme was to prevent the election of a liberal. The "Gut Yarborough Bill," as it came to be called, easily passed in the House, but failed in the Senate by

"On the night before the election," Yarborough says, "it started raining. After seven years, the drought had broken. I thought, 'Good Lord, now they're going to beat me with the rain.'" But Dies and Hutcheson split the conservative vote, and Yarborough was elected with 38 percent. It was his first statewide victory in five tries. And the following year, 1958, he

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won his second, easily trouncing The Establishment's candidate, "Dollar Bill" Blakley, a Dallas magnate in insurance, banking, ranching, oil, gas — the whole spectrum of Texas wealth — for a full Senate term.

It's with reluctance that Yarborough discusses the injuries inflicted upon him during those campaigns. He doesn't want to be remembered simply as a stubborn champion of lost causes, a valiant loser. "To me," he says, "the bottom line of my career is not all those campaigns. The bottom line is, What did you do while you were there?' When I was elected to the Senate, I had certain objectives I wanted to work toward. During the years I was running for governor, Texas was forty-sixth out of forty-eight states in the Union in public health and old-age pensions. We were thirty-eighth in education. We were about fortysixth in aid to dependent children. Now that there are fifty states, we're forty-ninth. We're the richest state in the Union, and we're near the bottom of the ladder in all social programs. We're forty-eighth out of fifty in the acreage per capita that we have in state parks. Texas is over thirty times as large as little New Jersey, and New Jersey has three times the acreage in state parks that we have. Everything in Texas has been for money. We turn the land over to those who will destroy it to make a dollar. I had a list of about eighteen things in which Texas was behind. And I thought, Well, here's my chance to do something about this. It won't raise Texas in the context of what the nation is doing, but it will raise Texas along with all the other states.' But I never introduced a big bill to try to do everything in one piece of legislation. I followed Abraham Lincoln's advice to 'whittle them to death by littles.'"

Yarborough quickly established his independence in the Senate by refusing to sign the Southern Manifesto – a sort of blood oath among the senators of the old Confederate states to fight civil rights with all the strength and vigor at their command. "I wouldn't fight integration," he says, "and that made them mad." Later, he would be the only Southern senator to vote for the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. "I've never let anybody tell me how to vote," he says. "I
don't care whether he was the president or anybody else. After all, I was older than Lyndon Johnson and John F. Kennedy and Hubert Humphrey. I didn't need any advice on how to vote. I had a fellow call me the other day. He was writing a biography of Hubert Humphrey. He wanted to know if Humphrey had influenced me to vote for civil rights. I said, 'Hell, no. I was for civil rights before I ever heard of Hubert Humphrey.'"

Yarborough had barely learned his way to his Senate desk before he began whittling on a whole forest of projects aimed at improving the lot of The People. When he arrived in 1957, he was appointed to the Labor and Public Welfare Committee, the Education Subcommittee, and the Health Subcommittee – all dealing with issues dear to him – and he remained on all of them throughout his career. He discusses his Senate work with a great deal more relish than his old battles against the Texas Establishment.

"I think my major influence in the Senate and on the country was in higher education," he says. "When I went on the Education Subcommittee, only three million people were in college in this country. The reason was, nobody else had the money to go, and the facilities weren't there, anyway. There was no way a student could get federal money directly in his pockets to go to school. But within seven or eight years, we passed five different bills to put money straight into the pockets of students. The first big breakthrough bill was the National Defense Education Act in 1958. The Russians had put up 'Sputnik I' in October of '57, and the country got scared that Russia was ahead of us in science and engineering. The bill did many different things. We had grants - scholarships - in there for the students, but Lyndon Johnson opposed that, and it was changed to loans on the floor of the Senate. We passed a bill giving grants to families so impoverished that they couldn't repay a loan. We passed government-guaranteed loans for students from middle-income families. Then there was my Cold War G.I. Bill to let the veterans go to college. The Pentagon fought that. The Defense Department thought servicemen wouldn't reenlist if they got a chance to go to college. What a horrible attitude for the Penta-

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gon to take! I said, You send those men to get their feet blown off by land mines, to get hooked on dangerous drugs, to contract tropical diseases – yet you won't let them go to school.' And we won."

Through the years, Yarborough introduced history's first bill in the Senate to provide federal funds for the education of children with learning disabilities. He wrote and cosponsored bills to provide schooling for the blind and the physically handicapped, Operation Headstart for disadvantaged children, adult education, bilingual education. He promoted federal funding for high school science and language laboratories, for libraries in public schools, universities, and medical schools.

"We were pushing education on every front," he says. "Our aim was to double college enrollment in ten years, from three to six million. But in 1968, we had eight million in college. I think it's twelve now. And I had more to do with that than any other one senator. Ten years after passage of the National Defense Education Act, the president of *Encyclopaedia Britannica* was testifying at an evaluation hearing on how the program was working. He called it 'the greatest education explosion in the history of the world."

Senator Wayne Morse, a maverick himself, dubbed Yarborough "Mr. Education of the Senate," an appellation that still pleases him. "I was very honored by that, because Morse was not a senator to praise people lightly," he says. "Most of us bragged a lot about other senators. Wayne Morse seldom did. But there's no political gain in that kind of legislation. The school kids weren't voting, and they didn't know about it, anyway. When one of my major bills became law, the Texas papers wouldn't mention that I had anything to do with it. It didn't even pay to put out news releases on those bills because their opponents were saying we were trying to turn our schools over to the federal government. That's the trick the big corporations of Texas always use to get people scared of federal money: They're trying to take over!' They' - that indefinable thing. Later, I would make speeches at high schools and mention where they got the money for their laboratories and libraries,

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and the people were completely surprised. The school boards hadn't told their people that they had been built with federal funds. They had suppressed that information."

Yarborough also supported legislation to provide FHA-type loans for people who wanted to build homes in the country, and money to build public water systems for little towns and villages. In 1969 he launched a federal War on Cancer. In 1970, as a lame duck senator, he passed the Occupational Health and Safety Act over President Nixon's veto. "After that," he says, "Nixon tried to kill it through maladministration." And in conservation, Yarborough was instrumental in creating in Texas the Padre Island National Seashore, the Guadalupe Mountains National Park, the Fort Davis National Historic Site, and the Big Thicket National Preserve.

During his thirteen years in Washington, Yarborough passed more national legislation than any Texas senator in history, including his hero, Sam Houston. But for the first half of his career, he wasn't assisted much by the fact that the majority leader was his fellow Democrat from Texas, Lyndon Johnson. "Johnson tried to kill my Padre Island bill," he says, "but I got it passed. It took me five years. Then I started on the Guadalupe Mountains. That wasn't so tough. Johnson didn't try to kill that because some of his friends out in West Texas wanted it. But he tried to get somebody in the House to pass it first so I wouldn't get credit for it."

Getting credit for what he accomplished is a preoccupation with Yarborough now, for the Texas press didn't give him much when he was in office, while it gave Johnson credit for many deeds that were done by others. And, Yarborough feels, LBJ is still grabbing unjustified glory from beyond the grave. "People who fought me on a lot of these things are now trying to get credit for them," he says. "They're trying to steal these things from me. Over at the Johnson Library, they're saying he was an education president, claiming he passed all those education bills. But Johnson and I weren't the bitter enemies painted up by the press. He just wanted credit for everything I did."

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Yarborough was riding in the car behind President John F. Kennedy on November 22, 1963, when the shots rang out in Dealey Plaza. He was at Parkland Memorial Hospital when Kennedy died. "Excalibur has sunk beneath the waves," he told the press.

Later, reporters and historians wrote that the purpose of Kennedy's Texas tour had been to mend a rift in the state's Democratic Party, between Yarborough and Gov. John Connally, both of whom would be running for reelection in 1964 - as Kennedy also planned to do. Yarborough strongly denies that was the reason for the fatal journey. "I never heard that a single time until after Kennedy was assassinated," he says. "I challenge anyone to find any reference previous to the trip to any such thing being the cause of his coming to Texas. Kennedy was a sharp politician. The idea that he would come here for three days and roam over Texas to patch up a quarrel between Connally and me is just ridiculous. Connally and I were both trying to get closer to Kennedy, and it wouldn't hurt Kennedy if Connally and I were quarreling, so long as we both were on his side. Kennedy's purpose in coming to Texas was to get ready for the campaign of 1964. He came here to raise money."

Whether mending a rift was the purpose of the trip, there's no denying that such a rift existed. Lyndon Johnson was unopposed for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1964, and his longtime friend, Connally, wanted to get an Establishment man back in the Senate. He was promoting Congressman Joe Kilgore from the Rio Grande Valley to oppose Yarborough in the primary.

A popular legend is that Johnson called him off and presented the nomination to his old foe as a gift. Some say he did it because he wanted a Texas vote in the Senate for the Civil Rights Bill. But Yarborough denies that, too. "Johnson, under cover, was doing everything he could to beat me in that race," he says. "But he was running for the presidency, and he didn't want it to be known publicly that he was trying to beat a senator of his own party. Johnson called me to the White House and told me, 'It's not true that I kept Joe Kilgore from

running against you.' And I believe that was one time he was telling the truth. If he had kept Kilgore from running, he would have demanded something from me, because if Johnson gave you a match for your cigarette, he wanted a ranch in return. He told me that Kilgore gathered his financial backers into a room and hooked up the phone so everybody in the room could hear. Then he called Johnson and asked if he should run against Yarborough, expecting him to say yes. But Johnson thought he was having a private conversation with Kilgore. He didn't know the others were there. He said, 'No, I don't think you ought to run against Ralph Yarborough.' Kilgore said, Well, I could beat him.' And Johnson said, 'I'm not sure of that.' So Kilgore's money men got discouraged. And when Johnson called me to the White House and told me that, he was mad that Kilgore had exposed him before all that crowd. He was irritated as the mischief about that."

Yarborough's only opponent for the nomination was Gordon McLendon, a wealthy Dallas broadcast executive, whom he beat handily. In the General Election, he defeated Republican George Bush by an even larger margin than Johnson beat Barry Goldwater in Texas.

Now that Johnson was president in his own right, Yarborough's Senate bills looked more attractive to him. "The truth of the matter is, a lot of Johnson's Great Society legislation was mine," Yarborough says. "I introduced a lot of those bills before he got to be president, and he didn't support them then. Go back and look at Johnson's record in the Senate. You won't find him introducing any of those education bills and the bills for progress that I did. The Kennedys, Wayne Morse, Paul Douglas, and I were the progressives of that period. We had been pushing those bills for years. But Lyndon swooped them up and called them 'my Great Society.' He wanted to be a great president, and he knew that to be a great president, you can't be opposed to progress. Whenever I would pass one of my bills, he would sign it and turn around with a great big grin and say, 'Ralph, this is part of my Great Society.' He jumped on the bandwagon. And I'm glad of it, because if we had had

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some reactionary in the White House, he could have caused us untold trouble."

One issue on which the two Texans never agreed, however, was the Vietnam war. Yarborough early aligned himself with Robert and Edward Kennedy, Eugene McCarthy, and other Senate "doves" and spoke out against its expansion. "I kept voting for the appropriations for it, though," he says. "I wasn't about to send our boys over there and then not send them the supplies to protect their own lives. It wasn't their fault that they were there. And I knew what the military was trying to get Lyndon to do. The military wanted him to drop the atomic bomb. And there was a lot of support for that. During the latter years of the war, I had people holding degrees from the University of Texas stop me on the streets of Austin and say, 'Ralph, what's the matter with you and old Lyndon? Lost your nerve? You've got to dig them commies out just like rats. You've got the weapon. Why don't you use it?' But to Lyndon's credit - his eternal credit - he wouldn't drop the atomic bomb. He refused to start the atomic war."

And in 1968, when Robert Kennedy and Eugene McCarthy – two of Yarborough's closest Senate allies – announced that they would oppose Johnson for a second term, Yarborough was caught in a bind. His reluctance to endorse Johnson enthusiastically didn't sit well with many Texas politicians who hoped to ride Johnson's coattails again. By the time that chaotic Democratic National Convention convened in Chicago – a convention to which he wasn't a delegate – Yarborough had supported three different candidates for the presidential nomination.

"I preferred Kennedy over Johnson," he says, "but I thought to try to change horses in the middle of the stream would bring defeat to the Democratic Party. And I thought Johnson was a better alternative than any Republican would have been, although I disagreed with him on so many things. So when Lyndon announced that he wasn't going to run — and that astounded me — I came out for Kennedy. Then he got assassinated. That left me with a choice between McCarthy and

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Humphrey. I chose McCarthy. But if I had waited thirty days, I wouldn't have. He had been doing the right things and picking up steam, but after I announced for him, he immediately started doing stupid things. When the Russians invaded Czechoslovakia and every other politician of both parties denounced them for it, McCarthy wouldn't. He said the Russians were just doing what we did in Vietnam. Then he announced who his cabinet would be, and they were all millionaires and Republicans. There wasn't a Democratic politician in his cabinet. Then he said he would withdraw from the race if Ted Kennedy would run. McCarthy didn't believe he could win. I wish I had just stayed home and stayed out of it. I supported three different people before it was over and finally wound up not supporting anybody."

The debacle of 1968 weakened Yarborough's political strength in Texas, and when he sought nomination to another term in 1970, The Establishment was ready. Lloyd Bentsen and his six million dollars drove him out of office. In 1972 Yarborough tried again to return to Washington — this time to sit in Republican John Tower's seat. But Barefoot Sanders — now a federal district judge in Dallas — defeated him for the Democratic nomination, and Tower beat Sanders.

For the next ten years, the liberal wing of the Texas Democratic Party – it prefers to call itself the "progressive" wing now – appeared to be dead. Since Yarborough's last defeat, both Tower and Bentsen have been re-elected. Ronald Reagan is in the White House. Texas even elected its first Republican governor since Reconstruction. Yarborough has spent those years in Austin, quietly practicing civil law, quietly living in the unpretentious house that he and Opal bought years ago, which now is filled with their collection of antiques and the rare books and documents about the Texan and American history that Yarborough loves with the fervor of a scholar. And he fears for The People and the federal programs that he and the Kennedys and even Lyndon Johnson had erected on their behalf.

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Donald V. Yarborough Attorney at Law

6004 Raleigh Drive Tyler, Texas 75709

December 19, 1991

Tedgelans (£±27 554-0572 [903]

Ms. Rea Donohue R.R. 2, Box 111 Breckenridge, Texas 76424

Dear Cousin Rea,

Recently in a conversation with Ralph he stated that he hoped the presentation of the plaqua was rescheduled in the month of March or April, in order to avoid bad weather.

This note is not intended to set a date, but/solely to pass on to you his remarks to me.

Merry Christmas to you and <u>all</u> of your family,

Nonald.

Donald V. Yarborough







Charles D. Yarborough

Charles D. Yarborough, 43, a Bedford attorney, died suddenly Thursday in a Bedford hospital.

A memorial sevice will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at First Baptist Church in Hurst. Burial will be in Restland Memorial Park in Dallas.

Yarborough attended the University of Texas at Arlington, the University of Texas at Austin and Southern Methodist University. He was licensed to practice law in 1967.

He was a member of the Fort Worth-Tarrant County Bar Association, the Northeast Tarrant County Bar Association of which he was president in 1970-71, the Dallas Bar Association, Tarrant County Trial Lawyers Association of which he was director from 1976 to 1985 and vice president from 1981 to 1984, the American Bar Association, American Trial Lawyers Associations and State Bar of Texas.



OPHELIA KESSLER BOX 261 NEW CASTLE, TX 76372

He was a life member of Delta Sigma Pi, Texas Outlaws Corvette Club, National Eagle Scout Association and Texas Heritage Association. He was a member of First Baptist Church.

Yarborough was a nephew of former U.S. Sen. Ralph Yarborough.

Survivors include his wife, Laura Patrick Yarborough of Bedford; three daughters, Vicki Yarborough, Charla Yarborough and Donna Yarborough, all of Bedford; two brothers, Bill H. Yarborough of Bedford and John H. Yarborough of Irving; and his father, Donald V. Yarborough of Dallas.

Fort Worth Star Telegram Saturday, September 21, 1985 CHARLES DAVID YARBOROUGH died Thursday, 19 September 1985 in Bedford, Texas at the age of forty-three. The cause of death was a catastrophic reaction to medication.

Countless Yarb(o)roughs across the nation mourn his death; he was indeed the flagship of our family. For nineteen years Charles compiled, edited, and published Yarburnugh Family Cagazing which he mailed without charge to hundreds of Yarb(o)roughs and Yarb(o)rough descendants in twenty-six states, asking only that the subscriber furnish self-addressed and post-paid envelopes. He aided countless Yarb(o)rough family researchers and shared his genealogy files with all who asked. He worked long and hard to draw our scattered clans together again into one close knit family. He was the driving force behind three NATIONAL YARBROUGH REUNIONS: Petersburg, Virginia in 1982; Nashville, Tennessee in 1984; and Fort Worth, Texas in 1985. At the time of his death the fourth national get-together was being planned.

Now our heads are bowed in grief. Charles is gone. A prince has fallen.

Those wishing to send a message of sympathy to his family may send them to:

1001 Bedford Road Bedford, Texas 76022

OPHELIA KESSLER BOX 261 NEW CASTLE, TX 76372



Charles David Yarborough 1941-1985

A million words could not begin to describe what Charles D. Yarborough has been to the Yarborough family. In August 1966 he began publication of "Yarborough Pamily Magazine". In the first letter Charles stated: "The purpose of this publication is to fill in missing information, to bridge missing links, and to acquaint all the Yarboroughs of the United States with one another." Por 19 years he compiled, edited and published this magazine. And, we Yarboroughs all over the United States have become acquainted with each other.

The one thing we have all learned is it was not the magazine which was our link, but rather its publisher.

Charles was the driving force behind all four of the National Yarbrough Conferences. This conference is included as it is being held in memory of Charles. All of the family present have made a special effort to be here this time to pay respects to and honor Charles, the man who worked so long and hard to draw our scattered clans together again into one close knit family.

Each family member has his own memory of Charles. He was so many things to each of us.

In research, he was our encouragement. He did not allow us to reach deadends and wive up. He shared his own frustrations and printed success stories from others. Many of us found new avenues through the records he printed.

He was our repository—the central place where we could send our records and information where it could be seen by anyone who asked.

He was our connecting link to the other researchers of our line. His busy schedule die not permit him to answer each letter he received as he would have liked. Yet, nearly everyone here has received a quick note with a piece of information that might help. When Charles found a definite piece of information that filled in a line, he called...and his joy at another's success was equal to what his own would have been had he found that elusive great, great, great grandfather for whom he searched. A comforting thought is that perhaps now he has found him.

Most importantly, Charles was our friend...more than a friend...he was a cousin to all of us. And not just a cousin; but that favorite cousin, the one who was always welcome in our homes and our hearts. He had a great love for family; not just his immediate family but the entire 'Yarborough family—past, present, and those yet to be born. He shared with us our ups and downs in research; the additions to our families; and mourned with us genuinely when we lost a family member just as we, his family, take these moments to remember Charles and share our loss together.

Excerpts from a letter sated September 23, 1985, written by Martha Jane (Janie) Bryant Tagert to Ruth Kendrick . This letter is to tell you of the sudden death of Charles yarborough, uncle Donald's son. Last Thursday, Sept. 19, p.m. he and Laura (his second wife) were enroute to Dallas - Fort worth airport on their way to Jondon, England where his oldest daughter had been all summer and where they were going to enroll her in art school for the fall. He asked Bill, his brother who was taking them to the sirport, to stop by the allergist because he had pives and decided to get it checked before leaving. He saw the allergist hegularly. When the nurse gave him the shot, he died momentarily. An autopsy showed he had been born with a heart defect (unknown to anyone) and suffered a massive heart attack. Because of the autopsy there was no furneral but a memorial t medicine was mislabeled, or whatever, since he had taken that shot lots of times. "Dan wondering if Dianne went to the yarborough conference and if she met Charles. He That taken chester's place in the Yarborough Records." Charlies would have been 44 years and next. month.



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Yet, the only way in which Charles is not with us this evening is physically. He loved these gatherings and looked forward to each one. Each time we gather Charles will be with us. Let us resolve that these conferences will continue. Let us work to continue this family closeness that was Charles' dream.

Boeth said, "... to know someone who thinks and feels with us, and who, though distant, is close to us in spirit, this makes the earth for us an inhabited garden."

Charles David Yarborough ... that someone who thought and felt with us and who, though distant, is close to us in spirit.

Charles . . . our leader, our friend, and the very special member of our family.



Searching for Indexed Terms¹

First, find the name or phrase (search term) in the index. Then, from the menu bar, select "Edit", and then "Find" or press CTRL+F. A search field will appear in the upper right corner of the page. Enter the search term into this field and press ENTER. If the search term is not found, nothing will happen; otherwise, the search term will be displayed on the first page in which it occurs. Repeated pressing of the ENTER key will high-light other occurrences within the file. Use the left and right arrow buttons to the right of the search field to look ahead or to look backwards for other occurrences of the term in the document

A directory (folder) or even an entire hard drive may also be searched². First, high-light the selected folder or drive and then press SHIFT+CTRL+F to obtain a listing of all the files in which the search term appears. Next, select and open an individual file to find the first occurrence of the search term(s) in the file, as described in the preceding paragraph.

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² This may take quite some time, depending on the size of files contained therein.

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