

Dr. J. R. Hopper

May 12, 1937 - April 11, 2022

Celebrating the Life of
Dr. J. R. Hopper

Thursday, April 14, 2022 10:00 a.m.
Holy Cross Lutheran Church
Nederland, Texas
Reverend Joshua Knippa
Reverend Gerald Kieschnick

Preservice Music

Invocation

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen

The Opening Hymn: "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"
LSB 770 3V

Remembrance of Baptism

Pastor: In Holy Baptism, Jack was clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness that covered all his sin. St. Paul says, "Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?"

People: We were buried therefore with Him by Baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

Prayer of the Day

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray.

O God of grace and mercy, we give thanks for your loving-kindness shown to Jack and to all your servants who, having finished their course in faith, now rest from their labors. Grant that we also may be faithful unto death and receive the crown of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

The First Reading

Joshua 1:5b-9

I will not leave you or forsake you.⁶ Be strong and courageous, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them.⁷ Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success[a] wherever you go.⁸ This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.⁹ Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 5:13b-24

Be at peace among yourselves.¹⁴ And we urge you, brothers, admonish the idle,[c] encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with them all.¹⁵ See that no one repays

anyone evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to everyone. ¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray without ceasing, ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹ Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰ Do not despise prophecies, ²¹ but test everything; hold fast what is good. ²² Abstain from every form of evil.

²³ Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴ He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel Lesson

Luke 24:1-12

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St Luke, the 24th chapter.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, [the women] went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. ² And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³ but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴ While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel. ⁵ And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, “Why do you seek the living among the dead? ⁶ He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁷ that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise.” ⁸ And they remembered his words, ⁹ and returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰ Now it was Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles, ¹¹ but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. ¹² But Peter

rose and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; and he went home marveling at what had happened.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

The Hymn “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” LSB 809 3v

Sermon Doctor Gerald Kieschnick

The Hymn “I’m But a Stranger Here” LSB 748 3v

Apostles’ Creed

People: I believe in God the Father Almighty

Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord,

**Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, Born of the
virgin Mary,**

Suffered under Pontius Pilate,

Was crucified, died and was buried.

He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

**He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand
of God the Father Almighty.**

**From thence He will come to judge the living and
the dead.**

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

The holy Christian Church,

The communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

The resurrection of the body,

And the Life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

Pastor: Let us pray to the Lord, our God and Father, who raised Jesus from the dead.

Almighty God, You have knit your chosen people together into one communion in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Give to your whole church in heaven and on earth your light and your peace.

Lord, in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life and so pass with him through the gate of death and the grave to our joyful resurrection.

Lord, in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: Give to the family of Jack and to all who mourn comfort in their grief and a sure confidence in your loving care that, casting all their sorrow on you, they may know the consolation of your love.

Lord, in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: Give courage and faith to the bereaved, that within the communion of your church they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the assurance of a holy and certain hope and in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love who have departed in the faith.

Lord, in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: Help us, we pray, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and find comfort in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Lord's Prayer

Psalm

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

² He makes me to lie down in green pastures: he leads me beside the still waters. ³ He restores my soul: he leads me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

⁴ Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

⁵ Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Benediction

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift His countenance upon you and give you peace.

People: Amen.

The Closing Hymn LSB 801 "How Great Thou Art" 4v



Dr. Jack R. Hopper, 84, of Beaumont, died Monday, April 11, 2022. He was born May 12, 1937, in Highlands, to Rosa Mae Simmons and Bonnie Preston Hopper.

Jack was born and grew up in Highlands, Texas. He attended grade school in Highlands where his father was the principal. Jack became a Christian and was saved and baptized at an early age at First Baptist Church in Highlands. He attended Lee College in Baytown for the

first two years of his college career. He later transferred to Texas A&M and married the love of his life, Marilyn Spears, in his Senior year in 1958.

Jack attended a long list of universities, beginning with Lee College in Baytown. He graduated from Texas A&M in 1959 and attended the University of Delaware, where he received his Master's in Chemical Engineering.

Jack took a short break from academia and worked at Exxon (Humble Oil Baytown) where he started in 1959. He then attended LSU where he received his PhD in Chemical Engineering. When Texas A&M would play LSU in football, Jack would always say, "I can't lose today!"

Jack began his career at Lamar University in 1969, becoming the Chemical Engineering Department head in 1974 and then the Dean of Engineering in 1999.

Jack created the College of Engineering Dean's Advisory Board and started the first ever capital campaign, raising \$150 million in endowments for Engineering.

Jack attended Redeemer Lutheran Church in Beaumont, Texas, where he served on many boards including the Board of Elders. He later joined

his children at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Nederland.

Jack and Marilyn were married May 31, 1958. They were truly textbook Biblical examples of a Christian marriage! They loved each other for 64 years and were still in love till the day Jack passed. Jack would tell Marilyn until he drew his last breath, “Marilyn, I’ve loved you a long, long time!”

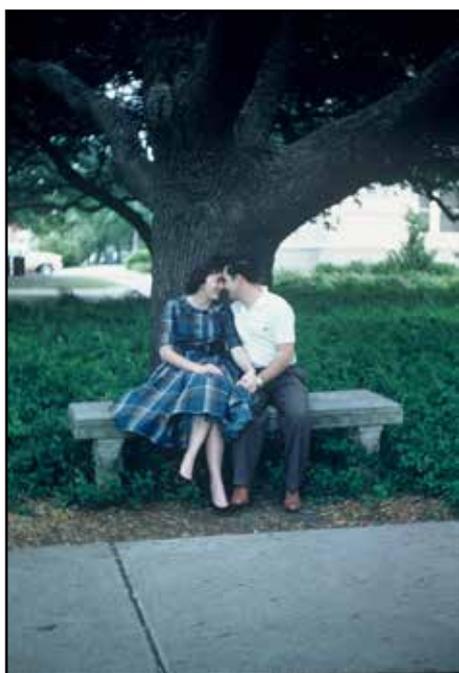
Jack truly modeled Jesus and showed all the Fruits of the Spirit! His patience is legendary. Of all of Jack’s achievements, the most significant would be his non-hesitancy to witness to everyone about his faith in Jesus Christ, the Lord and Savior of his life.

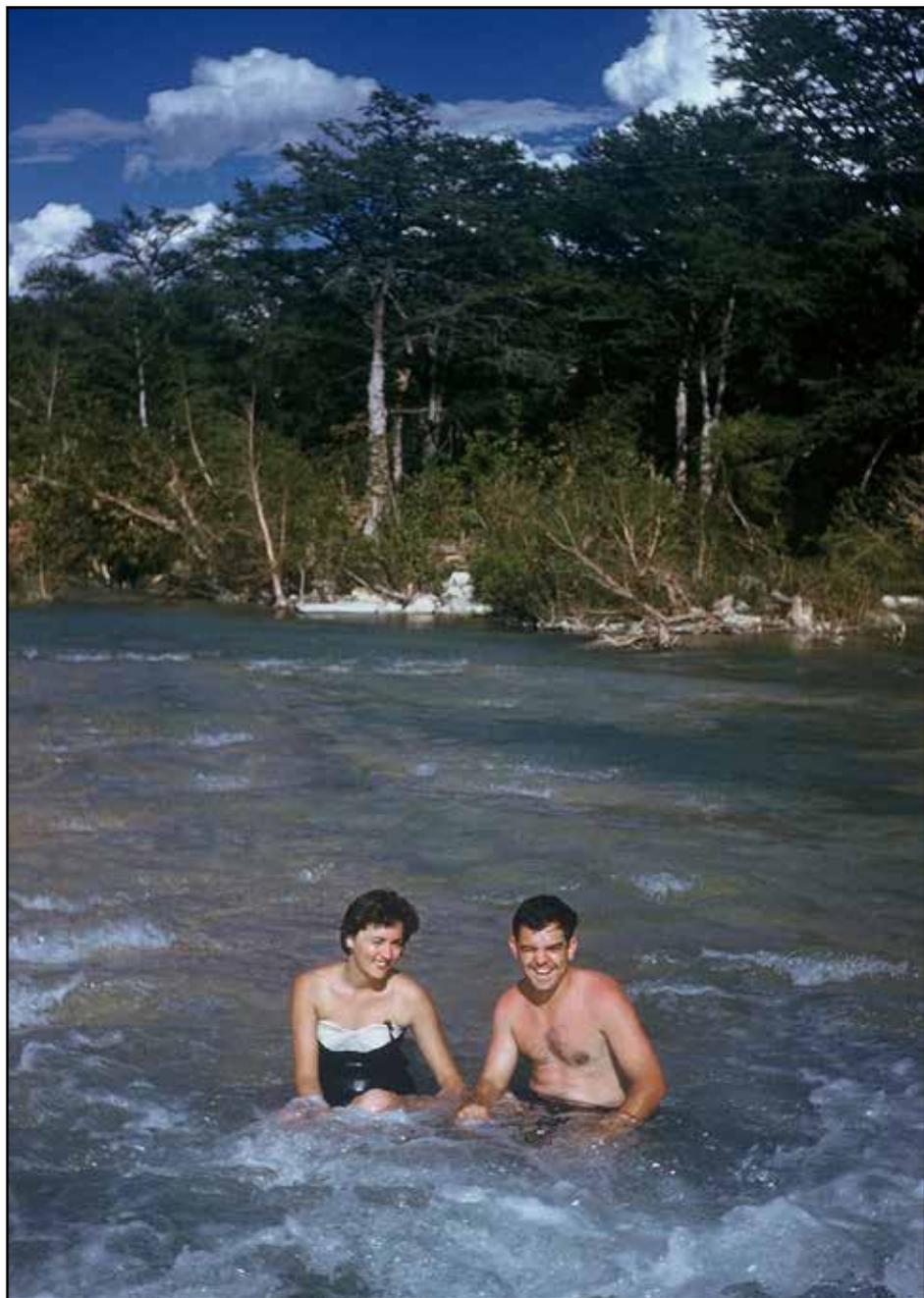
Jack truly touched many lives throughout his professional and personal life. He was always genuinely interested in people. No matter where he was or with whom he was speaking, whether president of a corporation or university, a waiter, a doctor, a phlebotomist (and the last few years he saw a lot of these) he was genuinely interested in people. He would ask about their life, really listen to their response, and truly demonstrate genuine care and concern, sharing the love of Christ freely and joyfully.

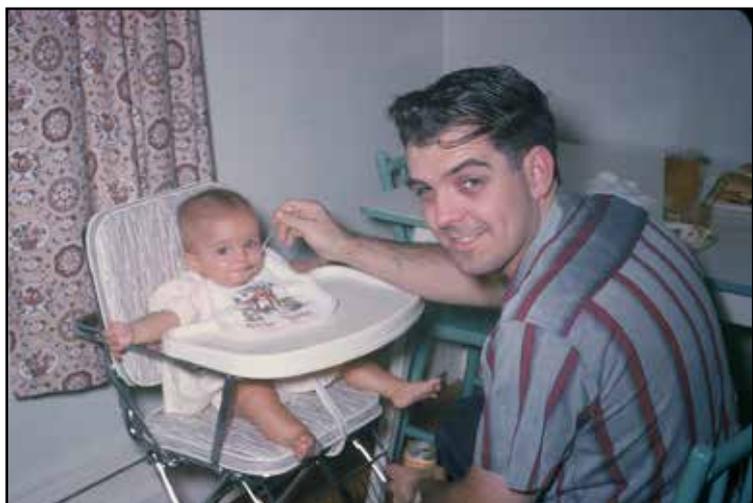
Jack Rudd Hopper was love by many and will be missed by many!

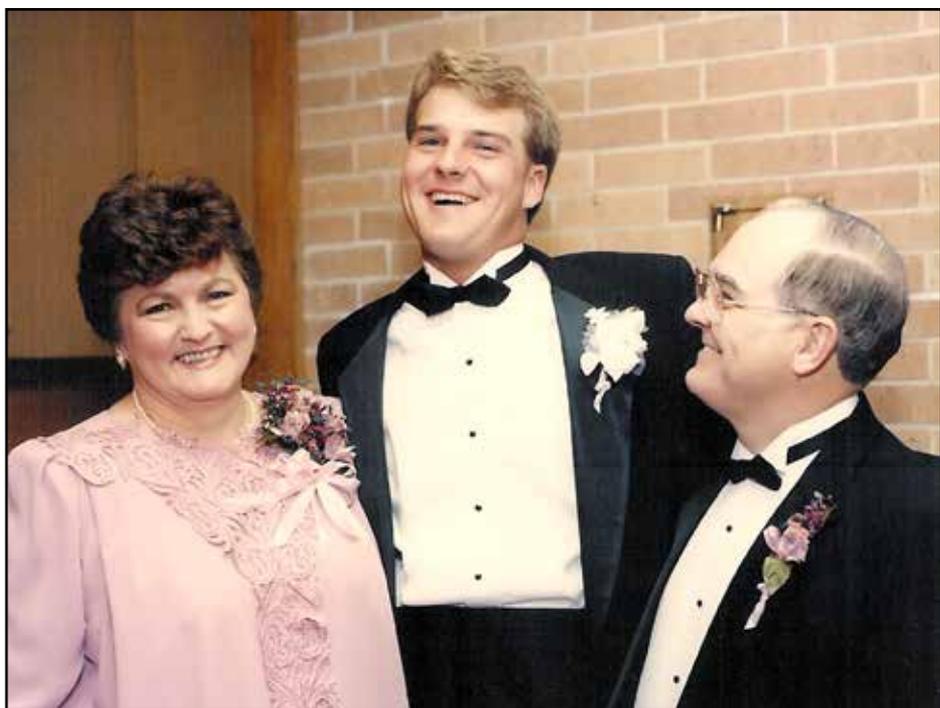
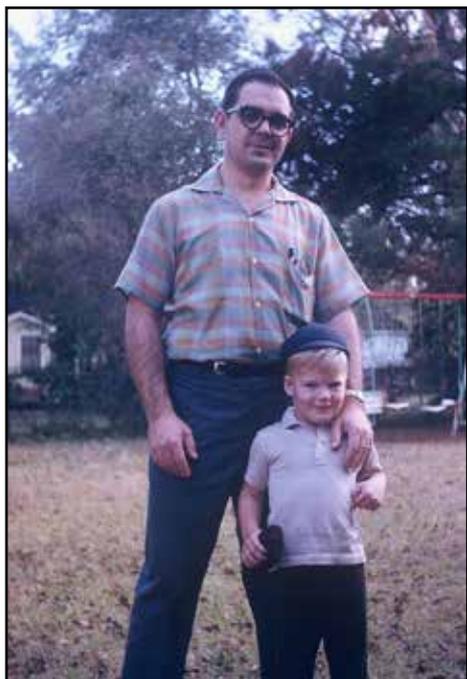
Survivors include his wife, Marilyn Hopper; children, Brad Hopper and wife, Moni, and Connie Weber and husband, Dan; grandchildren, Josh Matthews and wife, Kira; Maggie Hopper; and Holden Hopper; great-grandchildren, Jack and Luke Matthews; sister, Sue Campbell; sister-in-law, Beth Harris and husband, Chuck; along with numerous nieces, nephews, and extended family members.

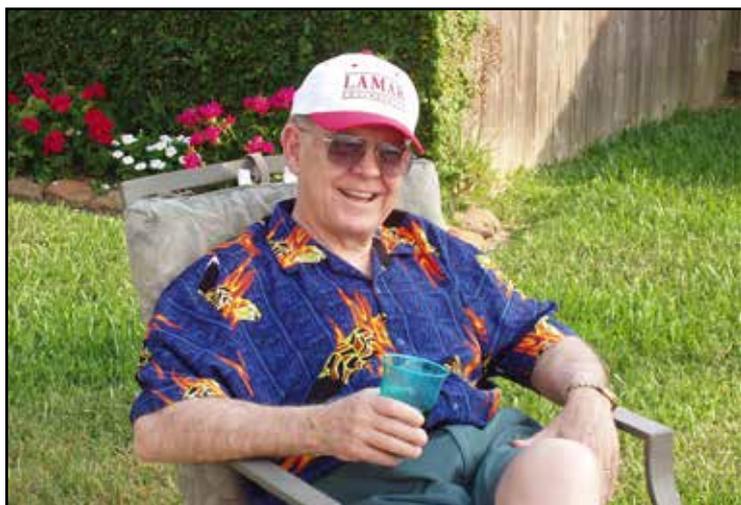
He is preceded in death by his parents; parents-in-law, Myrtle and C.D. Spears; sister-in-law, Shirley Erwin; brothers-in-law, Clayton Spears and Ralph Spears.





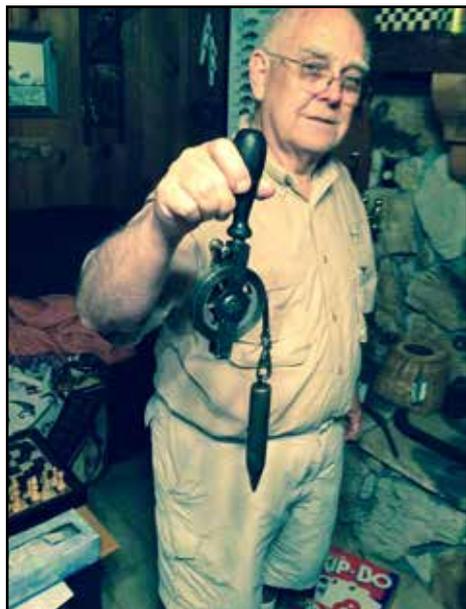
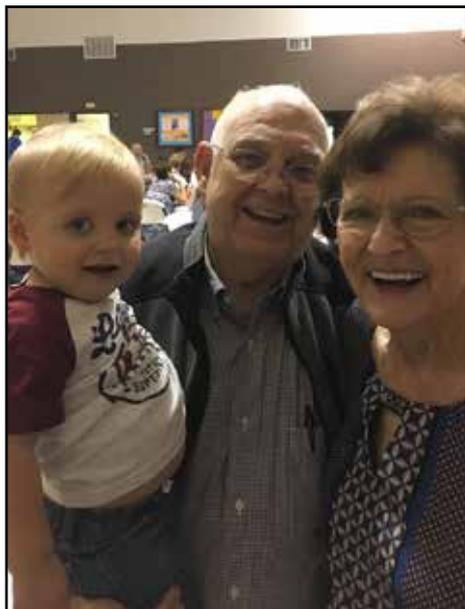




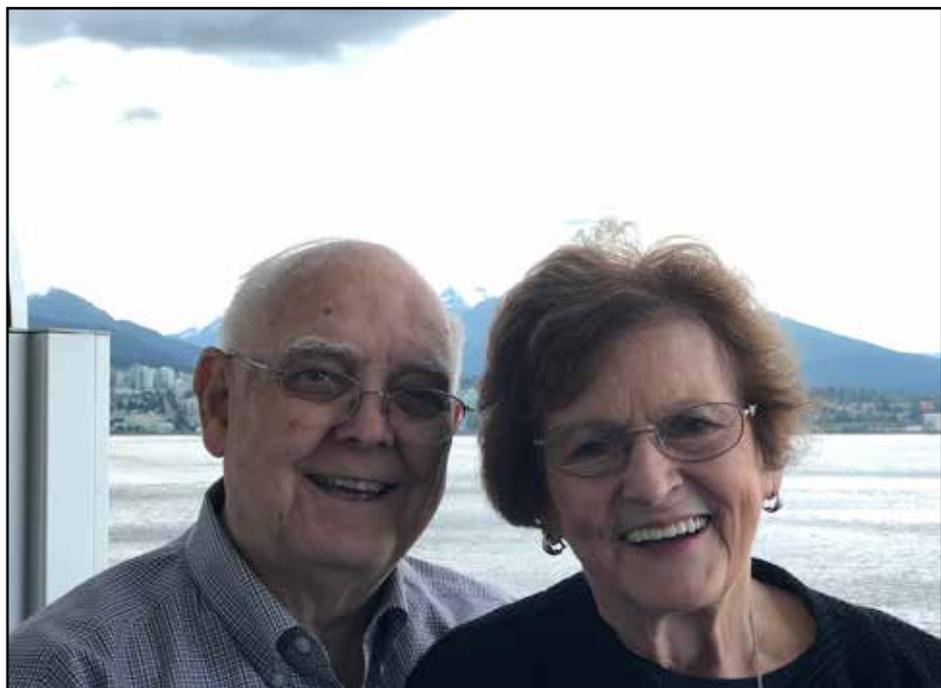












Pallbearers

Chris Campbell
Greg Campbell
Drew Hopper
Benny Elisar
Holden Hopper
Josh Matthews
David Erwin
Chuck Harris

Interment

Earthman Memory Gardens
Baytown, Texas

Memorial Contributions

Dr. Jack Hopper Scholarship
In Chemical Engineering
Lamar University

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Billy Graham Evangelistic Association
BillyGraham.org



Broussards
Established 1889

Please sign Dr. Hopper's guest book and share your memories at
www.broussards1889.com