

In Memory

Michael Miller Stump

A memorial service of witness to the resurrection for Michael M. Stump, 71, was held Wednesday, December 1, at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Nacogdoches, Texas, with Rev. Steve Newton officiating.

Mike Stump passed away on Sunday, November 28, 2010 in Nacogdoches. He was born September 29, 1939 in Ashland, Kentucky to Harold and Sallie Stump.

He was a graduate of Spencer High School and Marshall University in Huntington, West Virginia. He earned his MBA from the University of Florida and had a long executive management career in a variety of businesses, including financial software systems, engineering, and contract operations for municipal water and wastewater treatment systems. Since making his permanent home in Nacogdoches in 1999 he had been an active citizen supporting community initiatives. His restoration of two historic homes in Nacogdoches led to involvement in Friends of Historic Nacogdoches, Inc. He also served as president of the Texas Chapter ASA and as an elder in his church home, Westminster Presbyterian Church. His primary interest was people, and he was a dedicated mentor to his children, co-workers, and friends. He will be remembered for his capacity for friendship, sincere encouragement to all, and his intelligent wit, ready humor, and smile as big as Texas.

Mike is survived by his wife, Barbara; sister Dianne Kelley of Hiram, Ohio; daughters Mamie Elizabeth Flechas of Williston, Florida, and Sara Goldberg of Orlando, Florida; and son Michael Vincent Stump of Pearland, Texas. He was his family's joy and treasure.

The family requests memorial gifts be made to the Azalea Research Foundation, c/o James O. Thornton, 884 June Drive, Conyers, GA 30094 or to the Ruby M. Mize Azalea Garden, P.O. Box 13000 SFA Station, Nacogdoches, TX 75962.

▼ Mike Stump posed with "Flat Stanley" during a tour of Margie Jenkins' nursery at the 2010 ASA National Convention in New Orleans.



Photo Barbara Stump



Photo Jeff Abt

▲ Texas Chapter members, all but two new in 2010, and Tom Milner grin for the camera. The azalea gardens weren't in bloom, but now we know we need to come back in the spring.

SFA Board of Regents January 25, 2011) as the Gayla Mize Garden. This honors Ray's late wife, a former ASA member, who was very active in community affairs in Nacogdoches, who was a leader in the effort to start the Nacogdoches Azalea Trail 10 years ago, and who helped connect SFA Gardens with the donor whose endowment supports ongoing development of the Ruby M. Mize Azalea Garden. We are now searching for the "best of the best" deciduous azaleas and ornamental flowering trees for this new garden. Members of the Texas Chapter are helping with mapping and plant labeling and hope to plant the next batch of azaleas next fall.

Azalea City Program Accepting Applications

One of the principal goals of the ASA is to promote the appreciation of azaleas in public and private landscapes. To help achieve that goal, a program was established in early 2004 to find, recognize and certify those municipalities that promote and display azaleas as Azalea Cities.

We invite you to explore the requirements to be recognized and certified as an official Azalea City. In general, successful applicants for Azalea City status will have shown a dedication to highlighting azaleas through proclamations for an Azalea Week, festivals, tours, and the prominent display of azaleas in public gardens and landscapes. The certification period is for five years, contingent upon a continuing azalea emphasis in your municipality. There is no application fee.

For more information on the Azalea City program, including a list of current Azalea Cities, please visit the ASA Web site at www.azaleas.org.