

# 100 Years of

*Family ties are precious things, woven through the years... Of memories of togetherness, laughter, love and fears. Family ties are cherished.*

In the late 1800s, W.A. "Alf" Hawkins was a barber in Bridgeport. In those days, the local funeral director would call a barber to shave, bathe and cut the hair of the loved one. That's when Alf Hawkins first began his experience with a funeral home.

Carl Christian was the only funeral director in the county during this time, so he would call Mr. Hawkins to do the things a barber should do. Mr. Christian took Alf a step further in the preparation work by teaching him embalming.

When Sandy Creek washed out and there was a death west of Sandy, the phone would ring and Mr. Hawkins went to work. As time passed, people just began calling Alf Hawkins directly. By 1906, the legacy of Hawkins Funeral Home had begun. Alf Hawkins ran the business with the help of four sons until his passing in 1950. His son, Bert Hawkins, purchased the family business and continued the tradition with the help of Thomas Hays.

Bert skillfully practiced his trade at the family home on Greathouse Street. In 1956, he built a new facility on Stevens Street where the family operated until moving to its present location in June 2003. Bert's son, Bobby Hawkins, went to work with his father after graduating from mortuary school in 1961. Bert, Bobby and Thomas worked side-by-side for 21 years until Bert's death in 1982, when Bobby stepped in to continue caring for the people of this community. Bobby's son, Rob Hawkins, representing the fourth generation, joined his father and grandfather in 1980 and graduated from Dallas Institute of Funeral Service in 1981.

In 1987, the Hawkins family purchased the funeral home in Boyd. The Boyd location, Christian-Hawkins Funeral Home, gives residents a full service funeral home in their community.

Bobby's youngest son, Brant Hawkins, also a graduate of Dallas Institute of Funeral Service, began his career with the family firm in 1989. Upon Bobby's death in 1995, brothers Rob and Brant began working together to offer the finest service and care available anywhere.



From an old Hawkins hearse to the sons of W.A. "Alf" Hawkins at his funeral at First Baptist Church in Bridgeport in 1950 (from left, Paul, Leon, Bert and Jack Hawkins and grandson, Bobby Hawkins), to Bobby in his younger years, to Bert at a family gathering, the threads of family and friends are woven tightly throughout the proud Hawkins history.



W.A. HAWKINS



B.E. HAWKINS



BOBBY HAWKINS



ROB HAWKINS



BRANT HAWKINS



TREY HAWKINS



LINDA BLANKS



Hawkins Funeral Home

1909 9th Street • Bridgeport  
940-683-2211

# Memories

## Serving Wise County since 1906.



Family ties are what make the Hawkins legacy the proud institution it is today. From a group gathering to Bert and his family, to the Hawkins boys getting together, to ground breaking for the 9th Street facility, to Bobby as a young man, to Bert and Honey, to a proud Honey with Brant and Rob, the legacy continues today.



The year 1995 brought several changes, one being the addition of Roy and Georgia Morris to the staff. Before Bobby's death, he saw Roy at a funeral and said, "I hear you're retired. Come go to work for me, you'll be wearing out my carpet anyway." A few of months later Roy showed up, and with the help of his wife Georgia, they have made the term "encouragement" take on a whole new meaning.

In 2004, Jorge graduated Dallas Institute of Funeral Service. Jorge started and in that same year, the Rev. Gary Sessions began assisting Rob and Brant. "Gary showed us how important it was to give of ourselves," said Rob. In 2004, after 8 years with the firm, Gary decided to expand his ministry and test his resolve by attending and graduating Dallas Institute of Funeral Service, as well as earning his funeral director's license.

In 1998, at age 15, Jorge DeLuna began working for the Hawkins family while attending Bridgeport High School washing cars for us. Now he has an office in our new facility in Bridgeport while he serves his apprenticeship. He's also been an exceptional asset since he is bilingual," Brant explains.

Trey Hawkins, Rob's oldest son, joined the staff full time when he graduated mortuary college in May of 2005. Trey is the fifth generation of the Hawkins family to work in funeral service in Wise County. "I feel God has truly blessed our family by allowing us to continue to serve our community as a family," voices Rob.

In addition to Rob & Von Hawkins, Brant & Stacey Hawkins, Trey & Jennifer Hawkins, Roy & Georgia Morris, Gary & Martha Sessions and Jorge DeLuna, the Hawkins family is assisted by longtime staff member Linda Blanks, as well as Murtie Bounds, Chris Martinez and Sue Moore. The Hawkins make themselves available 24 hours a day at (940)-683-2211 in Bridgeport and (940)-433-5310 in Boyd. You can also visit them online at [www.hawkinsfuneral-home.com](http://www.hawkinsfuneral-home.com).



ROY MORRIS



GEORGIA MORRIS



JORGE DELUNA



GARY SESSIONS



MURTIE BOUNDS



CHRIS MARTINEZ



SUE MOORE

## Christian/ Hawkins Funeral Home



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