**MARION THOMAS ELKINS**

Brick Location: C5

My dad was a wonderful man. He was a loving husband and father to four girls, Tanya 13, Wendy 11, Sabrina 7, and Angel 2, at the time of his death.

He was kind, generous and caring. I remember when I was about five he worked for 5th Avenue Lumber Company. He would pick up my sister, Tanya, or myself and take us in his truck with him. We would have lunch together and ice cream. Dad loved to spend time with us.

The house we lived in before he passed away left me with a lot of memories of him. Dad put up a basketball hoop and taught all of us how to play. He taught us how to plant a garden our last summer together. We had the best corn on the cob. My dad taught us girls lots of things like how to change the air filter on a car and check the fluids. Don’t get me wrong, dad was a very strict and stern father who meant business. I am thankful for that. He instilled a lot of values and morals in us and it has helped me become the person I am today.

My most valued memory of him is he would take turns with us girls on Sundays and take us out to lunch to spend time with us. My last lunch with him in December when we got home we pulled into the driveway and a song came on the radio. My dad asked me to listen to it with him. The song is called “Bridge Over Troubled Waters.”

Afterwards he explained that God would always be there for me like a bridge over troubled water. Still to this day when I hear that song on the radio, I can feel that last moment sitting in the truck with my dad. It has made me realize, God will always take care of everything in his own way. I am grateful to have been blessed with a wonderful dad even if it was for a short time in my life. When God took him home on Sunday, December 9, 1984 at 12pm, I knew it was planned because that Sunday was my turn to go with him, but he told me to stay home. I thank God everyday for the wonderful man I call my dad because he was and is an awesome man. His name is Marion Thomas Elkins.

Submitted by:

Wendy Elkins

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