Thac Van Ta

Thac Van Ta of Irving died Aug. 22. He was 70.

He was born June 10, 1928, in Vietnam.

He is survived by his wife, Pham Thi Yen of Irving; son, Ta Ngoc Hoa and his wife, Do Ngoc Thuy of Irving; son, Ta Ngoc Dung and his wife, Nga Kituong of Irving; son, Ta Richard Hung and his wife, Chanh of Irving; daughter, Ta Nga and her husband, Nguyen Trung of Irving; daughter, Ta Mai and her husband, Lin Duong of Irving; and seven grandchildren.

Services are scheduled for 11 a.m. Saturday at Brown’s Memorial Funeral Home Chapel. Burial is set to follow at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens.
Leslie Otis
Talkington Jr.

Leslie Otis Talkington Jr. died July 1 after a lengthy illness. He was 65.
Born July 10, 1932, in Dallas, he was a pilot and a 20-year veteran of the U.S. Navy. He retired from the service in 1972, as a Lieutenant Commander. Later he taught Navy Jr ROTC at several Texas high schools, including Nimitz High School.

After teaching several years at St. Peter’s Academy in Dallas, he accepted a position with the Federal Aviation Administration as an inspector in Long Island, N.Y. He retired from the FFA in 1996 and returned to Irving. He spent the next two years teaching private pilots and at St. Luke’s Catholic School in Irving. He was diagnosed with cancer in November 1997.

He is survived by his wife, Nancy Talkington; sons, Pete, Tim, John, Jim, and Joe; daughters, Carolyn Hoopes, Alice, Sue, and Teresa; and his three grandchildren, Matt, Anne, and Will.

Services were held July 3 at St. Luke’s Catholic Church with the Revs. Tom Cloherty and John Alphonso officiating.

The family requests memorials to the St. Luke’s Catholic School, 1023 Schulze Drive, Irving, TX 75062.

Arrangements made by Donnelly’s Colonial Funeral Home.
Mary K. Tankel

Mary K. Tankel of Irving died Feb. 12 at her home. She was 84.

Tankel was born May 13, 1913, in Whitehouse, Ga., the daughter of Chester B. and Ruth (Williams) Searles. She was a retired classified ad manager for the Irving Daily News. She retired in 1978. She was also a member of the St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Irving and a member of the Irving Hospital Auxiliary.

She is survived by a daughter, Kathi Lawson of Euless; a granddaughter, Kate Lawson of Euless; and a cousin, Robert Williams of New York.

Services will be held at 10 a.m. Monday, Feb. 16 at St. Mark's Episcopal Church with the Revs. Michael Malone and Johnny Johnson officiating.

Family requests memorials to St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 516 S. O'Connor Rd., Irving, TX 75060.

Arrangements made by Donnelly's Colonial Funeral Home.
**Oma Smith Tanner**

Oma Smith Tanner of Richardson died Aug. 24. She was 85.

Born Oct. 24, 1912, in Richland, she retired after 23 years from Taylor Publishing and attended North Temple Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband, James Mack Tanner; daughter, Billie Jean Norton; and an infant daughter.

She is survived by daughters, Mary Campbell and Wanda Hollinsworth, both of Irving; step-son, Bobby Mack Tanner of Colleyville; step-daughter, Billie Mack toomer of Grand Prairie; brother, John T. Smith Jr. of Mesquite; sister, Jean James of Kemp; 14 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; and several nieces and nephews.

Services were held Aug. 26 at Brown’s Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. John Ussery officiating. Burial followed at Grove Hill Memorial Park.
Melvin M. Tappen

Melvin M. (Pete) Tappen died Nov. 8, 1998. He was 79.

Born March 28, 1919, in Atchison, Kan., he was a resident of Irving for 38 years.

He was a veteran of World War II and the Korean War and was a two-time recipient of the Bronze Star with Combat V and numerous other decorations.

He was also a sales engineer for Lunkenheimer Valve Co. for 23 years and an active member of the Knights of Columbus for 25 years.

He was preceded in death by sister, Ruth Lutz; son, Michael Tappen; and granddaughter, Carly Covington.

He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Frances Tappen; sons, Rodney Tappen, Toby Tappen; daughter, Laura Covington; and five grandchildren.

Services were held Nov. 10, at St. Luke’s Catholic Church in Irving.

Family requests memorials to the American Cancer Society or VNA Hospice.

Arrangements by Brown’s Memorial Funeral Home.
Eleanor R. Taufatofua

Eleanor R. Taufatofua of Kahuku, Hawaii, previously from Euless, died July 28 in an Oahu, Hawaii hospital. She was 26.

Born March 17, 1972, in Utah, the daughter of William and Ahi (Vehikite) Taufatofua, she was a credit union representative for American Airlines in Hawaii.

She was preceded in death by her father, and brother, William F. Taufatofua Jr.

She is survived by her mother, brothers, Sese Taufatofua of Arizona, Paea Taufatofua of Tonga, Taufatoutai Taufatofua of Arizona, and David Taufatofua of Indiana; sisters, Veisinia Vakapuna of Salt Lake City, Melesisi Manuhekina of Texas, Vika Tupola of Hawaii, Cecilia Taufatofua of Texas, Ineta Fonua of Texas, and Faye Taufatofua of Texas.

Services are scheduled for 9 a.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Euless with the Rev. Mau Neata officiating. Burial will follow at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens.

Arrangements by Donnelly's Colonial Funeral Home.
James Fred Taylor

James Fred Taylor died Jan. 23 in Irving. He was 60.

Taylor was a blueprinter.

He is survived by his wife, Charlsie Taylor; three daughters, Terry Bolton of Irving, Lisa Canney of Irving, and Sharon Hart of Irving.

Graveside services were scheduled for Jan. 26 at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens.
Jenny Lou Taylor

Jenny Lou Taylor, 93, of Irving died Friday, Dec. 25. Born June 19, 1905, in Mesquite, she was a housewife and a member of Irving Eastern Star. She was preceded in death by her husband, John Taylor, in 1971.

Survivors include her sons and daughters-in-law, Robert “Bob” and Jeanell Taylor, and Tom and Chris Taylor of Waxahachie; daughter and son-in-law, Mary and Bob Jackson of Irving; sister, Maggie Randolph of Fort Worth, and Ruby Emerson of Weatherford; 10 grandchildren; and 18 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were Monday, Dec. 28, at Brown’s Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Bruce Zimmerman officiating. Burial is in Oak Grove Memorial Gardens.
William W. Terry of Irving died Nov. 11. He was 76.
Born Oct. 18, 1922, in Anna, he was a retired clerk from TU Electric.
He was a member of South MacArthur Church of Christ and was in the Army Air Corps.
He is survived by his wife, Charlotte Terry of Irving; daughter, Sharon Terry of Irving; brother, Jessie Terry of Sherman; and sisters, Ruby Ford of Sherman, Vera Willingham of Howe, Ola Springfield of Garland, and Joyce Edwards of Grand Prairie.
Services were held Nov. 13 at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens with Art McNeese and Tim Lewis officiating.
Family requests memorials to American Diabetes Association, 8440 Walnut Hill Lane, Suite 260, Dallas, TX 75231.
Kathryn Anne Thrall

Kathryn Anne Thrall, 77, of Irving died Wednesday, Dec. 16, at Baylor Medical Center at Irving. Born July 31, 1921, in Winifred, Mont., to Frank Knouse and Jess Trotter Knouse, she was homemaker and a retired secretary. She was a member of Holy Family of Nazareth Catholic Church in Irving, a member of AARP, a volunteer at Holy Family of Nazareth, a former state officer for the Catholic Daughters Association and a member of the St. Paul Hospital Auxiliary. She was preceded in death by her husband, Lester, in July, 1998.

Survivors include: sons and daughters-in-law, Gary and Linda Pickett of Sulphur Springs, and Gregory and Sherri Pickett of Mabank; daughter, Kay Paden, Rio Vista; daughters and sons-in-law, Patricia and Dennis Carriker of Mead, Okla., Marcia and Larry Mullis of Evergreen, Colo., and Lynn and Bobby Cook of Watauga; sister Marion Gradle of Butte, Mont.; 18 grandchildren; 25 great-grandchildren; and two great-great grandchildren.

A Mass of Christian Burial was said Saturday, Dec. 19, at Holy Family of Nazareth with the Rev. Jerome Duesman and the Rev. Aiden O’Donovan the celebrants. Burial was at Calvary Hill Cemetery in Dallas.

The family requests memorials be made to Holy Family of Nazareth Catholic Church, 2323 Cheyenne, Irving TX, 75062.

Arrangements were coordinated by Donnelly’s Colonial Funeral Home.

☐ See OBITUARIES, Page 9A
Kathryn Anne Thrall

Kathryn Anne Thrall, 77, of Irving died Wednesday, Dec. 16, in an Irving hospital.

Born July 31, 1921, in Winifred, Mont., to Frank Knouse and Jess Trotter Knouse, she was homemaker and a retired secretary.

She was a member of Holy Family of Nazareth Catholic Church in Irving, a member of AARP, a volunteer at Holy Family of Nazareth, a former state officer for the Catholic Daughters Association and a member of the St. Paul Hospital Auxiliary. She was preceded in death by her husband, Lester, in July 1998.

Survivors include her sons and daughters-in-law, Gary and Linda Pickett of Sulphur Springs, and Gregory and Sherri Pickett of Mabank; daughter, Kay Paden, Rio Vista; daughters and sons-in-law, Patricia and Dennis Carriker of Mead, Okla., Marcia and Larry Mullis of Mead, Okla., Susan and Mark Starek of Evergreen, Colo., and Lynn and Bobby Cook of Watauga; sister, Marion Gradle of Butte, Mont.; 18 grandchildren; 25 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

A Mass of Christian Burial was said Saturday, Dec. 19, at Holy Family of Nazareth with the Rev. Jerome Duesman and the Rev. Aiden O’Donovan the celebrants. Burial was at Calvary Hill Cemetery in Dallas.

The family requests memorials be made to Holy Family of Nazareth Catholic Church, 2323 Cheyenne, Irving, TX 75062.

Arrangements were coordinated by Donnelly’s Colonial Funeral Home.
Bruce Thomes

Bruce Thomes, formerly of Irving, died Sept. 5 in Fort Collins, Colo. He was 36.

Born Oct. 11, 1961, in Dallas, the son of Richard J. and Anna (Lillian) Walsh, he was a consultant in veterinary medicine. He was also a graduate of MacArthur High School, attended Texas A&M University and graduated from the University of Texas.

He is preceded in death by his brother, Craig Thomes, grandparents, Evelyn Thomes and James Walsh.

Survivors include his parents, Dr. Richard and Bettye Thomes of Irving, and Anna and Dean Albin of Richardson; sisters, Lorelai Moody and husband Jon of Euless, Michelle Beach of Grapevine, Jenice Cutler and her husband Trey of Colorado, and Jennifer Day of Dallas; brother, Allan Meagher and wife Kelly of Irving; grandparents, Edwin J. Thomes of Euless, Lucile Walsh of Dallas, and Mary Kennedy of Port Arthur; six nieces; and six nephews.

Services were conducted Sept. 8 at Holy Family Catholic Church of Irving with the Rev. Aidan O’Donovan officiating. Burial followed at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens in Irving.

Family requests memorials to Holy Trinity Catholic School Chapel Fund, 3750 William D. Tate Ave., Grapevine, TX 76051.

Arrangements by Donnelly’s Colonial Funeral Home.
Jack I. Tillery

Jack I. Tillery of Houston died Aug. 9. He was 74.

Born Jan. 19, 1924 in Irving, he was the owner of Thermotech Inc.

Survivors include his wife, Margaret Tillery of Houston and Pittsburg; son, Jack L. Tillery of Trinidad, West India; daughter and son-in-law, Kim L. and Ron Wamble of Pittsburg, five grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, and four sisters, Martha Seeber of Irving, Sarah Carter of Little Elm, Lois Smith of Grand Prairie and Rutha Honea of Irving.

Services were conducted Aug. 12 at First Baptist Church of Irving. Burial followed at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens with Dr. Randy Rudisell officiating. Funeral arrangements were made by Chism and Smith Funeral Home.
Toni Ard Timmins

Toni Ard Timmins of Irving died Oct. 11 in Irving. She was 58.

Born Nov. 19, 1939, in Casper, Wyo., the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Billy Ard, she worked at Boeing of Irving as a quality control inspector.

She was preceded in death by her parents and brother, Tim Ard, all of Denison.

She graduated from Denison High School in 1958 and was a member of the WIIBC. She was also a league coordinator for the Triangle Bowl of Irving and the Forum Bowl of Grand Prairie. She enjoyed genealogy and researched the Ard name back to the 1600s.

She is survived by her husband, Jerry Timmins of Irving; son, Billy Burden of Irving; daughters, Cindy Rhodes and her husband, Jeff of Watagua, Caren Sanders and her husband, Steve of The Colony, and Amy Timmons of Irving; three sisters, Ann Attnip and her husband, David of Moore, Okla., Lyn Gill and her husband, Lynn of Carrollton, and Kim Timm of Bellville; sister-in-law, Connie Ard of Denison; grandchildren, Shannon, Matt and Dusty of Watagua, Randy, Steve and Jamie of The Colony and Cody of Irving; and several nieces and nephews.

Services were held Oct. 12 under the direction of Calvary Funeral Home of Irving.

Family requests memorials to the American Cancer Society.
Vinh Thi Tran

Vinh Thi Tran of Irving died Oct. 23 in an Irving hospital. She was 67.

Born Nov. 15, 1930, in Vietnam, she was preceded in death by a son, Anh Van Dao.

She is survived by husband, Dieu Van Dao of Houston; five children, Anh Hoang Dao of Arlington, Mary-Van Thi Dao of Makati, Philippines, Thien-An Dao of Houston, Thien-Huong Thi Dao of Hsinchu, Taiwan, ROC, Thu-Cuc Thi Dao of Lewisville; brothers, Thai Vu Tran of Vietnam and Khai Tran of Vietnam; sisters, Kinh Thi Tran of Vietnam, Tinh Thi Tran of Costa Mesa, Calif., Chin Thi Tran of Vietnam, Hong-On Thi Tran of Costa Mesa, Calif., and Hien Thi Tran of Huntington Beach, Calif.; and eight grandchildren.

Services were held Oct. 27 at Brown's Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Ngoc Sanh Nguyen officiating. Burial followed at Bluebonnet Hills in Colleyville.
Shawna Renee Trevino

Shawna Renee Trevino died Oct. 15 in Arlington. She was 24. Born July 3, 1974, in Hurst, she worked as an assistant manager for Wilson's Leather Store.

She is preceded in death by her grandfather, Donald Manning.

She is survived by her parents, Joe and Lisa Trevino of Mansfield; sister Adrianna Trevino of Mansfield; grandparents, Margaret Manning of Irving and Josefina and Jose Trevino of Irving; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

Services will be held 10 a.m. Monday, Oct. 19 at Brown's Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Charlie Alexander officiating. Burial will follow at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens.
J. Bruce Tripp

J. Bruce Tripp of Irving died March 29. He was 68.

Born April 18, 1929, in Denver, he was a retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. and was retired from the Irving Fire Department.

He is survived by his mother, Helen Tripp of Irving; sons, Brett Eric Tripp of Orange and Michael Bruce Tripp of Lawton, Okla.; daughter, Doneta Mae Beckham of Tennessee; brother, P. Douglass Tripp of Anaheim, Calif.; and companion, Sonja Watkins of Irving.

Military services were April 1 at Brown's Memorial Funeral Home Chapel. Burial followed at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens.
Edward Earl Tuberville
Jan 8, 1998

Edward Earl Tuberville, formerly of Irving, died Jan. 4 in Bedford. He was 42.

Born Sept. 4, 1955, in Springhill, La., Mr. Tuberville was a minister at New Believers Fellowship Church in Fort Worth and a 1973 graduate of MacArthur High School. He was a prayer ministry leader for Channel 29 and a graduate of the Dallas School of Mortuary Science.

He is survived by his wife, Debbie Tuberville; daughter, Dawn Michelle Tuberville; son, David Edward Tuberville; father, Edward Tuberville; and mother, Edith Tuberville.

Services are scheduled for 2 p.m. today at Calvary Temple. Interment will be at Bluebonnet Hills Memorial Park in Colleyville.
Edna LaVelle Tuggle

Edna LaVelle Tuggle, a former Irving resident, died March 27 at an Arlington hospital. She was 40.

Born June 3, 1918, at Coalgate, Okla., Tuggle was a homemaker. She was also a member of the Past Worthy Matron Eastern Star No. 144, Lindsay, Okla. She was awarded life membership to the PTA in 1962 and was past president of Irving High School PTA.

She is survived by a son, Charlie Tuggle of Arlington; and sisters, Nona L. Horsley and Mary Lang, both of Lindsay.

Services were held March 28 at Brown’s Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Randy Carroll officiating. Burial followed at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens.
Two found dead in Irving

By STEPHEN TERRY
News Staff Writer

Irving police responding to a concerned neighbor's call Tuesday found the deceased bodies of two residents in a Valley Ranch home.

"We received the call early this morning, and we didn't do anything," said Officer David Tull, Irving police public information officer. "We receive these type of calls every day. Shortly before 1 p.m., we entered the house and made the grim discovery of two bodies located in the back portion of the house. We are not able to say who they are or when they died. It looks like they had been dead for a while, maybe more than a day."

Police said there were no signs of forced entry into the residence, located at 9523 Cliffside Drive in north Irving.

Police said they arrested a 19-year-old man connected to the residence earlier Tuesday on Dallas County misdemeanor warrants.

"The arrest on Dallas County warrants are unrelated to this incident," Tull said.

Jeremy White, a Garland resident doing stone masonry work in the area, said he noticed a suspicious man going back and forth from the house Monday.
Deaths: Two found dead in N. Irving

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“He was looking at me out of the corner of his eye,” the 24-year-old White said Tuesday. “I seen him four times that day (Monday). He would stand at the front porch and look at me. He was watching to see who was looking at him. I worked in the area, and I had not seen him before. I was told that was supposed to be (the victims’) son.

“I saw him up at the Mobile car wash (on MacArthur). I was on the phone, and while I was on hold, I heard him asking someone for his CDs, because he needed to go out of town. I saw him all day going back and forth.”

Police said they could not connect the arrested man with the victims, because they did not know their identity. Dallas County medical examiners had not identified the victims as of press time early Wednesday.

Although a wrecker was spotted taking a Diagnostic Health Services van from the back of the house, police said they do not have any leads into the case and were unwilling to identify the man arrested earlier in the day for warrants.

“You gather everything you can when you don’t know what happened,” Tull said about the van being taken by police escort. “We have a wide-open scope, and we’re gathering everything we can. The investigation is in its initial stages, and we’re not directing the focus of the investigation.”

Neighbors said, in the past, the victims had been having “trouble” with their son.

“Apparently, they had been having problems, and he (the son) had been stalking residents in the area,” Valley Ranch resident Richard R. Bejcek said. “This is normally a quiet area. There are some ... young, middle-aged families in this area. Recently, there have been a couple of burglaries in this area, but nothing like this. Right now, there is a lot of speculation.”
Son, 18, charged in double murder

By STEPHEN TERRY

Irving police have charged 19-year-old Carlton Ake Turner Jr. with two counts of capital murder in the shooting deaths of his parents in their Valley Ranch Home.

Carlton Turner Sr., 43, and 40-year-old Tonya Turner have been tentatively identified by police as the victims of the shooting, pending medical-record confirmation. Local authorities discovered their bodies in a Valley Ranch residence Tuesday after receiving a call from a concerned neighbor.

Police reports state each victim was shot multiple times in the head with a handgun. Police estimate the time of death was between midnight Friday and midday Saturday. According to police, there were no signs of forced entry into the residence, located at 9523 Cliffside Drive in north Irving.

Officer David Tull, Irving police public information officer, said police arrested Turner early Tuesday on Dallas County traffic warrants unrelated to the shootings. However, after further investigation, Turner was arraigned Wednesday on two counts of capital murder, police said.

As of press time Friday, police records indicate Turner, of Irving, remained in the Irving City Jail with no bond set (without bond?).

Dallas County records show Turner was serving a three-year probation sentence after pleading guilty on April 2 to a January robber charge.

Investigators said they are not releasing any information at this time pertaining to a motive for the shootings.

Jeremy White, a Garland resident doing stone masonry work in the area, said he noticed a suspicious man identified as the victims' son going back and forth from the house Monday.

"He was looking at me out of the corner of his eye," the 24-year-old White said Tuesday. "I seen him four times that day (Monday). He would stand at the front porch and look at me. He was watching to see who was looking at him. I was told that was supposed to be (the victims') son.

"I saw him up at the Mobil car wash (on MacArthur). I was on the phone, and while I was on hold, I heard him asking someone for his CDs, because he needed to go out of town. I saw him all day going back and forth."

Police said information received from citizens helped assist them in their inquiry.

"Investigators state that information and physical evidence gathered through their investigation, combined with information received from concerned citizens, aided them in this investigation," Tull said in a released statement.
Hazel Tuttle
Hazel Tuttle of Irving died Jan. 10 in Irving. She was 80.
Born Aug. 29, 1917 in Letot, Mrs. Tuttle worked as a taxicab driver for 35 years in Irving for Green Cab Co.
She is survived by her daughters, Jean Couch of Irving, Katherine Brand of Austin, and Charlene Tuttle of Oregon; son, William Brand of Plano; brothers, Sterling Andrews, Durwood Andrews, Charlie Andrews and Denver Andrews, all of Irving, and David Watkins of Azle; sisters, Geneva Tippie of Irving and Leona Brand of Azle; seven grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.
Services were held Jan. 12 at Donnelly’s Colonial Chapel with the Rev. Joe Moody officiating. Interment followed at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens.
Family requests memorials to American Cancer Society.