



Howard Lee "Hokie" Gajan, Jr.

SEP 6, 1959 - APR 11, 2016



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Howard Lee "Hokie" Gajan, Jr.

SEP 6, 1959 - APR 11, 2016

Howard Lee "Hokie" Gajan, Jr. passed away on Monday, April 11, 2016 in Jefferson, LA. He was born on September 6, 1959 in Baton Rouge, LA to Emma Hanegan Gajan and the late Howard Lee Gajan, Sr.

Hokie was married to his beloved wife, Judy Moak Gajan, for 37 years, and together they had four daughters, Jennifer Gajan-Mier (Brandon), Kristin G. Sell (Gerald), Megan E. Gajan (Brandon Trahant), and Alexis B. Gajan. He was the loving grandfather of Emma Mier, Caroline Mier, Tucker Mier, Sawyer Mier, Noah Mier, Kamryn Sell, Kinley Sell, and Callen Sell. Hokie was the brother of Patti Anderson, Chipper Gajan (Brenda), Wendy Bradley (Dan), Elaine McManus (Fred), Andy Gajan (Debbie), Robert Gajan (Gwen), Dawn Gajan, and Alton Gajan (Cheryl). He is survived by numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Relatives and friends are invited to the Funeral MASS at St. Anselm Catholic Church, 306 St. Mary St., Madisonville, LA, 70447 on Friday, April 15, 2016 at 3:00 PM with VISITATION from 10:00 AM until service time. EULOGIES will begin at 2:30 PM. Interment will follow the service at Theodore Dendinger Cemetery, Madisonville, LA. Please Share a Memory on the Tribute Wall at www.ejfieldingfh.com.






Events

Howard Lee "Hokie" Gajan, Jr.




SEP 6, 1959 - APR 11, 2016

Visitation

-  **Friday**, April 15, 2016
-  10:00 AM - 2:30 PM CT
-  **St. Anselm Catholic Church**
306 St. Mary Street, Madisonville LA 70447






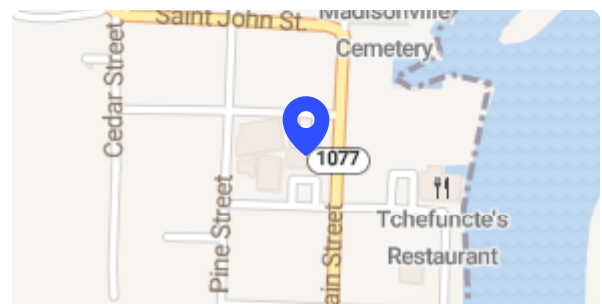
Eulogies and Readings

-  **Friday**, April 15, 2016
-  2:30 PM - 3:00 PM CT
-  **St. Anselm Catholic Church**
306 St. Mary Street, Madisonville LA 70447




Funeral Mass

-  **Friday**, April 15, 2016
-  3:00 PM CT
-  **St. Anselm Catholic Church**
306 St. Mary Street, Madisonville LA 70447



Cemetery Details

-  **Theodore Dendinger Cemetery**
Dendinger M and Hwy 21, Madisonville LA 70447





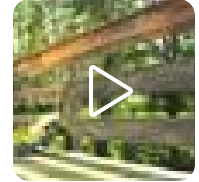
Tribute Wall

Howard Lee "Hokie" Gajan, Jr.

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E.J. Fielding Funeral Home & Cremation Services shared a **Tribute Video**.



April 13 at 1:00 PM

NB

Nick Buller posted:

I met Hokie in Grand Isle at the Bridge Side Marina when I was about 10 years old. He my dad and I were talking and joking around and one thing led to another and Hokie challenge me to who could catch the biggest hard head cat fish. "Which is a trash fish" but it was all in good fun. From then on When he came with the saints every year to Grand Isle me and Hokie were sure to cut up at the Bridge Side.

February 2 at 7:51 AM

RR

Rudy & Linda Rizzo posted:

I've known Hokie and family for many years. The one thing that stood out about Hokie was his willingness to help people at our church, especially our youth group at St. Isidore Catholic Church near Baker, La. One year at our October Fest Church Fair my wife and I were youth leaders trying to come up with ideas on how to raise some funds for the group. We learned that we had access to a Dunking Booth for the Fair. Well, after Hokie became a Saints football player, he somehow found out about the Dunking Booth that year and called me . He said he had talked to Fr. Mike our Pastor and would be there that Sunday afternoon. As he promised he drove down to our Fair with that beautiful Saints jersey on just to get wet. Bet you can guess who were the first people in line, yes you guessed it, it was his brothers and sisters with \$5's, \$10's, \$20's at a \$1.00 a throw or until they put Hokie in the water. Needless to say we did quite well that day. Thanks Hokie, you never forgot us, and we're going to miss you. Our prayers are with the families. Love, Rudy & Linda Rizzo

April 16 at 2:23 PM

MH

Minnie Hemphill posted:

Judy, Jennifer, Kristin Megan and Alexis, so sorry to read of the loss of your husband and father. Please know that death is temporary. We have God's promise to be reunited and live on a paradise earth. There will be no more sickness and death. What a joyous time to live and enjoy our loved ones.

April 16 at 10:07 AM



Tribute Wall

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SS

Shelly Strobel posted:

The death of Hokie Gajan brings to mind the years during the mid 1950's when the Gajan family lived in Watson. Mrs. Thelma Gajan (Hokie's grandmother) started the first organized choir at Live Oak Methodist Church. She and Mr. Gajan (Pappy) had three sons: Alton who was in the 101st Airborne at the time, Bobby Lee (later Hokie's dad) who was in the Marines, and Preston (Bumpy) who was in the 7th grade with my class at school. The two older boys joined us in the choir whenever they were on leave. Bobby Lee served in the Korean war, and was involved in several bitter battles, spending one Christmas behind enemy lines. Alton became a warrant officer, a helicopter pilot, and was killed in Vietnam. On a brighter note, they were all very popular with the local teenagers during the 1950's. Bobby Lee had an especially good bass voice and was also known for his ability to blow "Jambalaya" on a duck call! His rendition of "Old Man River" was, in my opinion, as good or better than Paul Robson's, who sang it in the movie, Show Boat. The Gajans also had two foster sons, Don and David (Ray) Gunter. Don was in the Navy, and also joined us in the choir when he was on leave. Ray was grown and already away from home, but visited often. Don married my Aunt Faye, and they became the parents of Mark, Jim and David. After the Gajans moved to Baton Rouge, we stayed in touch, but as the years went by, we saw them less. The senior Gajans moved to Florida after Alton's death, and lived out their lives there. I talked to Bobby Lee, whose family remained in Baton Rouge, when Jimmy Rushing died. Bobby was not in good health then, but he was so very proud of Hokie!! Hokie had played football at Baker High School, then LSU, and was playing for the Saints at the time. An amazing family, sadly missed!
Shelly Strobelshellys55@aol.com

April 15 at 2:29 PM

LV

Lucy Vincent posted:

I didn't have the pleasure of knowing Hokie personally but felt like I did from listening to him on the radio for a long time. The main thing I could tell about him was his love for his family. You could just feel him light up whenever he talked about his daughters and Grandchildren on the air. Thoughts and prayers go out to his family and may God bless and keep all of you. Saints games on Sunday will never be the same without you Hokie!!!

April 15 at 4:46 AM



Tribute Wall

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Darrell David posted:

I have known Hokie all my life. Starting in first grade i will never forget Hokie and i had Mrs. Jones for our teacher and one day a boy stole one of my colors and Hokie found out and went and got it back for me. 🙏🙏. That was just the kind of person he was from even a young age like that, always caring and giving of himself to someone and that never changed. He will GREATLY be missed here but Judy just know he is at peace and no more suffering. He fought ti the end because of his family. God's peace and grace to you. 🙏🙏🙏😊

April 15 at 1:17 AM



Richard Armstrong posted:

Loved the memorial! I saw a lot of familiar faces. Hokie was funny and compassionate; I still think about some of his stories and laugh. I also remember when my grandfather passed away during our sophomore year, he sat with me in the locker room at Baker High for a long time and we talked, letting me know that he was there for me. Richard Armstrong

April 14 at 5:18 PM



Pamela Lea Savini posted:

Judy and family....May you find strength in God's loving arms. Hokie was a role model for all who knew him. He will never be forgotten. Pamela Lea Savini

April 14 at 5:05 PM



Donnie Morgan posted:

Great memorial of Hokie, I remember a time back in the day when we were growing up in Brownsfield Hokie, Andy, Rudy Gautreaux and I went frogg'in all night in every ditch and canal in Brownsfield . From the Morgan Family to the Gajan Family our thoughts and Prayers are with you. Okie was a friend and role model for all to follow he will be greatly missed. Love y'all, and may God Bless you all Donnie and Tracey Morgan

April 14 at 12:33 PM



Anonymous sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Gajan family.



April 14 at 11:21 AM



Tribute Wall

Howard Lee "Hokie" Gajan, Jr.

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Anonymous sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Gajan family.



April 14 at 11:06 AM



Pam Vizinat Burford posted:

I knew the Gajuns since childhood. Our families went to St Isdore Catholic church, CYO functions and high school together. Hokie and I had several classes together and he always sat behind me. That is when we developed a friendship. He was humble and had a peaceful soul. I can still feel him tap my back in class and asking if I was going the football game every Friday and then talk about the game on Monday. My prayers are with his wife, children, grandchildren, Mother and the entire Cajun family. May Gods peace be with you. I believe Hokie is with our God and is at peace.
Pam Vizinat Burford

April 14 at 10:02 AM



Jim And Sandy Dombrowski sent a Secret Garden Basket to the Gajan family.



April 14 at 9:30 AM



The Smith Family sent a Large Basket Garden to the Gajan family.



April 14 at 6:59 AM



Anonymous sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Gajan family.



April 14 at 6:57 AM



Tribute Wall

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F. J. Hebert posted:

God bless you my friend and please provide comfort to your family from your buddy "Milk Jug Legs".

April 14 at 6:03 AM



Anonymous sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Gajan family.



April 14 at 5:31 AM



Rick Cleveland posted:

<http://msfame.com/ricks-writings/hokie-gajan-the-saints-and-all-of-us-have-lost-an-original/>

April 14 at 5:19 AM



Anonymous sent a Serene Retreat to the Gajan family.



April 14 at 5:08 AM



Tim Buhler posted:

From Tim & Jenny Buhler Emma & Norris, we are so very sorry for your loss of your beloved son. Our hearts go out to you and all of the family. We hope that in some way our prayers and condolences are of some help during your time of grief. You will certainly be in our continued prayers. Jenny and I love y'all and wanted you to know that if there is anything we can do, please let us know. God bless you all.

April 14 at 3:54 AM



Tribute Wall

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CB

Charlie Breaux posted:

To Judy , Jennifer, the other daughters and grandchildren. Joan and I deeply share the passing of "our" Hokie. Hokie was our treasured friend. Would always greet us as Mr. or Mrs. Breaux no matter how many times we would say Hokie "it is Joan and Charlie"! and when we met the next day after it would be Mr. and Mrs. again. Hokie was also, our Saints road game buddy. He would sit with us in the lobby and entertain us and on some occasions Jennifer and Brandon would arrive. Always humble and respectful of all and through all of his physical pain from football injuries, he never stopped being himself. another joyous time was after duck hunting in the Rigolies area, Hokie and Kenny Wilkerson would stop to say "hello" at our Lake St.Catherine "Lakehouse". And that would be the highlight of our day! We will miss Hokie. Rest in piece my Friend. We will always remember YOU. JOAN AND CHARLIE BREAU

April 14 at 2:59 AM

EA

Emily Taylor Amedee posted:

Condolences to the Gajan family. Hokie will be sorely missed by so many! I was about 7 or 8 years old when I first heard "Hokie Gajan" this was at one of the many football games (Baker High) we went to. Hokie would stop by and visit my mom and dad from time to time...he was someone you never forget, truly one of a kind great person! (thinking about you Dawn...love you)

April 13 at 6:15 PM

NB

Nancy Bird posted:

I only knew Hokie from tv and radio, but I cried when I read that he passed away. He was a treasure to all; may your memories carry you forward. My sincere condolences to you all.

April 13 at 5:52 PM

LM

Linda Merse Markey posted:

Judy, Our thoughts and prayers go out to you and your daughters and the entire Gajan family. Hokie was loved by many. May God's grace bring comfort to all of you during this most difficult time. David and Linda (Merse) Markey

April 13 at 5:01 PM



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MP

Mary Pereira lit a candle in honor of Howard.



April 13 at 3:32 PM

AD

Allen Dixon posted:

I played baseball with his little brother, Alton. When Hokie was drafted by the Saints, he took Alton and I down to a day of training camp. It was one of the coolest things ever. We also got to go on the field after a couple games and in the locker room post game. Got Earl Campbell's and Kenny Stabler's autographs as well as a bunch of other players from back in the day. Those are memories I won't forget and I can thank Hokie for that.

April 13 at 3:29 PM

HM

Hattie Manuel posted:

I did not know "Hookie" however I remember listening to his radio broadcast oh my way home from work and it made the ride a little less cumbersome. I am sure he touched the lives of many he did not know. May he RIP.

April 13 at 3:12 PM

MF

Michelle Fournet Faxon posted:

My prayers go out to Judy and the entire Gajan family during this very difficult time. May you find peace in knowing he was loved and admired by so many. Michelle Fournet Faxon

April 13 at 1:31 PM



Anonymous sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Gajan family.



April 13 at 1:16 PM



Tribute Wall

Howard Lee "Hokie" Gajan, Jr.

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Anonymous sent a Large Basket Garden to the Gajan family.



April 13 at 1:08 PM



Angela Buzbee posted:

To all of the Gajan family, our thoughts and prayers go out to all of you! Hokie was the biggest thing to come out of Brownsfield! We have so many memories from our younger years, so many of them being at the Gajan house! We all went to school with one of the Gajan kids! We were all so excited to say Hokie started his career at Baker High School!, At LSU we could say, we know him and the same with the Saints! We pray for comfort and peace during this difficult time. 🧑❤️ Bill & Angela (Cookie Sellers) Buzbee

April 13 at 11:30 AM



Marilyn Graves Marsh April 13 at 4:09 PM

I remember Hokie from our days at Baker High School where he was a great football player and I was so happy for his successful career. Great guy that deserved the best. His sister Elanie was one year behind me and Hokie was the next year in the class with my brother. To all his family - I'm truly sorry for that you are having to go through this difficult time. My God bring you peace and comfort, till you see him again.



Brenda Landry posted:

My thoughts and prayers are with all of you. Brenda Landry. (Corky Landry)

April 13 at 11:03 AM



Emile Courrege posted:

My deepest sympathies to the Gajan family. I never had the honor of knowing Hokie personally but he was always my hero when I played HS football for CHS-NI from 79-83 and later when he worked for WWL, I listened to him at every chance even though I've lived in Houston for over 20 years. I will miss his wit and humor and humbleness and his appreciation for all things Louisiana. You will always be my hero! Emile Courrege

April 13 at 9:31 AM



Tribute Wall

Howard Lee "Hokie" Gajan, Jr.

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Anonymous sent a Magnificent Life Spray to the Gajan family.

April 13 at 9:01 AM



Anonymous sent a Sacred Garden Spray to the Gajan family.

April 13 at 7:57 AM



Anonymous sent a Cherished Memories to the Gajan family.

April 13 at 7:16 AM



Dave Wilson posted:

so many memories but the best were the many meals shared on the back deck. I would bring the steaks and Hokie and I with the girls and Judy would just hang out and laugh and talk. You treated me like family and I will never forget the many good times we had. My heartfelt condolences to all of you and looking forward to seeing you Friday for the celebration of a great man and his very full life,Dave Wilson

April 13 at 6:37 AM



Robert Goings posted:

Thoughts and prayers to the Gajan family. God bless you all!Scotty Goings

April 13 at 5:54 AM



Dalemcwilliams lit a candle in honor of Howard.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Hokie and the Gajan family. Dale and Kyle McWilliams

April 13 at 5:29 AM





Tribute Wall

Howard Lee "Hokie" Gajan, Jr.

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BF

Bonnie Fezekas lit a candle in honor of Howard.

Praying for the Gajan family. He will be truly missed. RIP Hokie...

April 13 at 5:26 AM



BW

Brian Webre lit a candle in honor of Howard.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you. The Webre Family

April 13 at 4:49 AM



DR

Doug Roshto shared an album called **New Album Name**.

April 13 at 1:08 AM



BC

Belinda Chaix April 13 at 6:35 AM

Jennifer and Brandon we were so sadden to hear you lost your Dad. What a wonderful man. I know your hearts are broken. We are praying for healing hearts. Treasure your memories they will be the most comforting in the days to come. love you guys, Tommy and Belinda Chaix

DR

Doug Roshto April 13 at 1:11 AM

We played the Broadmoor Bucs this night. Naturally Hokie dominated the game as we tore the Bucs up pretty bad!

DR

Doug Roshto shared a photo to the **New Album Name** album.

April 13 at 1:02 AM





Tribute Wall

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Joey Carter posted:

Darn darn darn! I feel so bad for Hokie & his family. Obviously, I followed Hoke at LSU & the Saints. Always a pleasure, blue collar-attitude runner. Tough runner. But afterwards, more recently, as an analyst, I respected Hoke's insight more than any other analyst. I remember telling my son, who ran track with his daughter at Mandeville High, that Hokie always seemed to get it right. He came across as raw & uncultured, but even those of us with higher "degrees" understand good, accurate insight -- and he had it. I also remember seeing him attend a track meet at Fontainebleu High School to watch his daughter. He hobbled up those steps. I teared up just to see someone who I'd respected for many years struggling like that. God bless him.

April 12 at 5:23 PM



Susan Felder lit a candle in honor of Howard.



April 12 at 4:24 PM



Martha Bateman lit a candle in honor of Howard.



April 12 at 4:19 PM



Al "Abdul D Tentmakur" D'aquin shared an album called **New Album Name.**



April 12 at 3:55 PM

AA **Al "Abdul D Tentmakur" D'aquin** April 12 at 3:58 PM
A more honest and sincere man, you will never meet!



Tandy Hunjan lit a candle in honor of Howard.

My heart hurts for you all. Prayers for healing. Love, Tandy



April 12 at 3:40 PM



Tribute Wall

Howard Lee "Hokie" Gajan, Jr.

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AH

Amy Hamilton lit a candle in honor of Howard.

Our thoughts are with you all - The Hamiltons

April 12 at 3:36 PM



MD

Marc And Kristen Denham lit a candle in honor of Howard.

April 12 at 3:01 PM



DH

Donnalee Kubancsek-Hebert lit a candle in honor of Howard.

April 12 at 2:58 PM



DH

Donnalee Kubancsek-Hebert April 12 at 3:00 PM

Give Daddy a hug for me, you all have a couple beers up there.

TG

Tim & Debbie Griffith lit a candle in honor of Howard.

April 12 at 2:50 PM





Tribute Wall

Howard Lee "Hokie" Gajan, Jr.

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TL

The Landrums posted:

Words feel so inadequate at a time like this. Please know our hearts ache too, as we give you our deepest sympathy.

April 12 at 12:26 PM

GS

Gary Smith April 15 at 10:43 AM

Hokie was in my graduating class of 1977. Although he probably wouldn't remember me, I followed his career at Baker, then LSU and as a Saint. I loved hearing him call the games on the radio also. He was fun to watch playing football at all three places and you could tell he loved the game. He always gave 110 percent. I was always proud to call him my classmate. He will surely be missed. My prayers go out to the Gajan family at this time. Gary Smith

BD

Barbara Norsworthy Dotie April 14 at 2:56 AM

Prayers to all of the Gajan family. My Mom and Hokie's Mom are cousins. I didn't know Hokie but My Mom was very proud of him. Emma, if Mom were still here, I know she would want you to know that God will get you through this. She is in heaven and will greet Hokie. (Joan Hanegan Norsworthy)

RK

Robert Keller April 14 at 2:33 AM

My son, Mark Keller, played on a fast pitch softball team in the third grade with Hokie and they won the Baker league championship, led by Hokie's outstanding athletic abilities. Even at that early age, he was not a boy, but rather a young man gifted with tremendous talent and a humble attitude. Robert Keller



Media

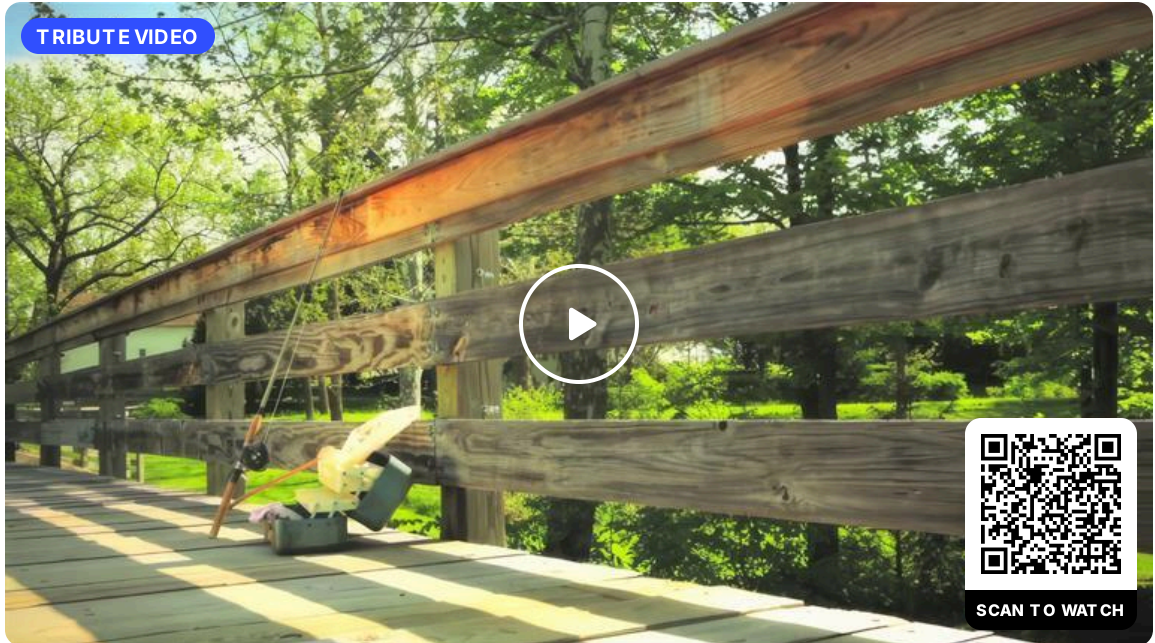
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E.J. Fielding Funeral Home & Cremation Services shared a **Tribute Video**.

April 13 at 1:00 PM



Jerry Langlois May 9 at 8:30 AM

I didn't know Hokie well but I did have a couple of classes with him at L.S.U. and used to talk to him a little about football. I remember him as humble and very shy but affable and courteous. One stormy day I asked him if the team was going to practice in such inclement weather. He responded "I hope so because there's nothing I like better than knockin' heads ". I'm not spiritual but hope there is in fact a nice place for Hokie to stay and wait for his friends and family.



Louise Lovich April 15 at 8:06 AM

What a heartwarming video and a tribute to a great man. Although I did not know him, I certainly knew of him and am blessed to know Jennifer and Brandon. Fish on, Hokie, fish on! Louise Lovich



Tammy Rivette April 14 at 1:30 PM

Such a heart warming video! I remember Mr. Bobby saying "if IF was a skif we would all take a boat ride".. What a wonderful loving family!



Lori Dugas April 13 at 5:19 PM

I really enjoyed looking at all of Hokie's pictures from the pass praying for your loss



Doug Roshto shared a photo to the **New Album Name** album.

April 13 at 1:08 AM



A news article naming Hokie as "The Cajun Stampeder".



Doug Roshto April 13 at 1:11 AM

We played the Broadmoor Bucs this night. Naturally Hokie dominated the game as we tore the Bucs up pretty bad!



Media

Howard Lee "Hokie" Gajan, Jr.

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Doug Roshto shared a photo to the **New Album Name** album.

April 13 at 1:02 AM



Here's a preseason photo shoot of me, #45, and Hokie back in 1977 in Baker.



Media

Howard Lee "Hokie" Gajan, Jr.

SEP 6, 1959 - APR 11, 2016



Al "Abdul D Tentmakur" D'aquin shared a photo to the **New Album Name** album. April 12 at 3:55 PM





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Howard by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



Scan to Visit