

Dear Commissioners Court,

I am writing to respectfully request consideration for the placement of a memorial bench with a plaque at Paul Hopkins Park in honor of my grandfather, whom we tragically lost on April 9, 2024.

My grandfather was a steady, loving presence in our family, and his legacy continues through his great-grandchildren. He shared a particularly special bond with my son, Canton. He showed up for him in the quiet, meaningful ways that matter most, cheering him on, telling him stories, and teaching him the value of hard work, kindness, and family.

Since, our family has grown, and there are now even more great-grandchildren who never had the chance to get to know him the way Canton did. Canton would love to be able to show them how much Paul Hopkins Park meant to him and his great-grandfather, and to share the stories and memories they created there. A memorial bench would give him a tangible way to help keep his great-grandfather's memory alive for the younger children as they grow.

Paul Hopkins Park holds a special place in our hearts. It is where Litten and Canton spent countless afternoons playing, laughing, and simply being boys. It is a place filled with joy and connection for our family. Having a memorial bench there would give the grandchildren a physical place to sit, reflect, and remember their great-grandfather as they grow. It would allow his memory to remain woven into the everyday moments that matter most.

We would be honored to work with the county on any guidelines, requirements, or costs necessary to make this possible. If approved, our family would assume all associated costs. Thank you for your time and consideration. It would mean more to our family than words can express.

Sincerely,

Caitlin Schanzer