

Wall Of Honor Nomination

June Brown <noreply@jotform.com>

Sat 12/23/2023 9:08 PM

To: Cook, Nicci <niccicook@frankstonisd.net>; jademcbride@frankstonisd.net <jademcbride@frankstonisd.net>

📎 5 attachments (108 KB)

Chris White.docx; Emma Liles.pdf; Kay McDonald Letter.docx; Mary Cox.docx; Wall of Honor Nomination.docx;

Wall of Honor

Name of Nominee: June Brown

Home Address of Nominee: Street Address: 1589 ACR 320
City: Frankston
State / Province: TX
Postal / Zip Code: 75763

Cell Phone Number: (903) 6813008

Email Address: junebrown6646@yahoo.com

Years Attended Frankston Schools (if applicable): 13

Professional/Area of Achievement: Educator

Name of Nominator: Laura Byrd (Brown Family)

Home Address of Nominator: Street Address: PO Box 777
City: Frankston
State / Province: TX
Postal / Zip Code: 75763

Home or Cell Phone Number: (903) 5718149

Email Address: laura.brown0614@gmail.com

Submission Date: 12-23-2023

Please attach supporting information regarding the candidate's biography, legacy and contributions that address the question: "Why
[Chris White.docx](#)
[Emma Liles.pdf](#)
[Kay McDonald Letter.docx](#)
[Mary Cox.docx](#)
[Wall of Honor Nomination.docx](#)



should this
candidate be
included on the Wall
of Honor?

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Personal Life/Education:

On June 6, 1946, Lee & Ruby McLane welcomed their 11th and final child: a girl named Margaret June. As the baby of the family, June was quite shy and known to be a Daddy's girl. Some say she was scared of her shadow back then, rumor has it, she still is. Born and raised in the small town of Frankston, June attended Frankston ISD from start to finish. June grew to be a very involved member of Frankston ISD.

- Basketball - Freshman - Senior
 - Played as a starter all 4 years - position: forward
 - 1962-63 basketball team won district, went to regionals
 - Made all district team Junior and Senior year
- Class Officer
 - Junior - Secretary/Treasurer
 - Senior - Treasurer
- Student Council
 - Sophomore
 - Junior - Vice President
 - Senior - President
- Other Titles/Organizations
 - Homecoming Queen - Junior
 - Miss FHS - Junior and Senior
 - Voted Most Beautiful one of these years, but chose Miss FHS as her superlative
 - FFA Sweetheart - Senior
 - Beta Club Member - Senior

Along with her participation in school, June also worked numerous jobs throughout her adolescence.

- Eat A Bite Cafe - mother's restaurant - waitress/dishwasher
- Dairy Maid - age 13 - waitress/dishwasher
- Cleaners - highschool
- City Cafe (Mary's restaurant) - waitress - Saturdays - Jr/Sr
- Lion's Club - took up donations during Christmas Season to help with Lion's Club Santa Claus Parade - throughout highschool
- Counselor at Wegment's Summer Camp - following graduation

While FISD was a place of great accomplishment for June, it is also the place where she met her highschool sweetheart, Travis Brown. Travis was a lifetime Frankston resident, a member of the 1961 State Championship Basketball team, and later on a dairy-man, but most importantly the love of June's life, devoted father and pawpaw. Following her graduation in May 1964, June started school at Henderson County Junior College. While there, she joined a sorority, was part of the 1964/65 Homecoming Court, as well as the Rodeo Queen.

After 1 year, she left school and began working at Citizens First National Bank in Tyler, a job her sister Dorris helped her secure. In 1966, Travis and June married on August 19th. Following

their wedding, June moved to Nacogdoches to be with Travis while he finished his last year at Stephen F. Austin State University. While in Nacogdoches, she worked at Fredonia State Bank, while Travis went to school to earn his teaching degree. During this time, Travis and June learned they would be welcoming their first child, a boy due in August. Following Travis's graduation, they planned to return home to Frankston for the summer to help his father through hay season. In August, they would move to Orange, where Travis had accepted an ag teacher position at Little Cypress School District. Travis graduated from SFA on May 20, 1967, and they moved back to Frankston the very next day. Six days later, on May 27, 1967, their son, James Travis, was born 3 months premature. After 42 very long days, they were able to lay hands on their first son. He thankfully made it through his hospital stay and went home to become a strong and healthy boy.

In August 1967, the family of three moved to Orange, Texas, where they would stay for 3 years. Travis taught school in the ag department, and June went back to work, at Community Bank, when James was around 10 months old. On James's third birthday, 5/27/70, they moved back to Frankston. Travis's father, Marshall, needed help with his dairy farm, so the family returned home once again. In 1971, Travis became a partner of the dairy, and eventually owner following his father's unexpected passing in 1977.

After their move back in 1970, June spent the next 16 years as a homemaker: raising James, helping with the farm, moving and feeding cattle, raking hay, bookkeeping for the farm, gardening and canning, serving as a room mother throughout all 13 years of James's schooling, and even teaching in the local Thursday School program. A lifetime member of the Church of Christ, June served as a Sunday school teacher for many years. As James grew older, June began taking college classes again, in order to pursue her teaching degree. She took classes through Henderson County Junior College on Frankston's campus. She took a short break from college in 1981, as their family grew by another member, a son: Seth Howard in February. She officially returned to college in 1983, ultimately graduating from UT Tyler in December 1985. One day after her UT Tyler graduation, June was interviewed by Bill Alexander and Thomas Cook for a position at FISD. Legend has it that the job was already hers before she even interviewed, and an offer was made before the interview ended. Her first official position at FISD involved taking the place of 2 other instructors while they were out on leave. She taught 4th grade, 7th grade English, and 7th grade physical education for the rest of the semester.


In August 1986, she began teaching her first full year of school. For the next 14 years, June taught 5th grade - self contained classes in the beginning and eventually converted to departmentalized classes, where she taught Social Studies and Math. After her youngest son graduated in 1999, she moved to the 2nd grade hallway where she taught until 2006. She remained in the elementary school until both of her oldest grandchildren moved into middle school. In 2006, June was promoted to District Testing Coordinator. As the testing coordinator, she handled all things TAKS testing, ESL, At Risk, and helped develop the school's RTI program at the time. She remained in this position until her retirement in 2011. This retirement was extra special because she got to retire alongside her sister, Mary Phillips.

Community:

- Square Fair
 - In October 1975, a group comprised of Jerry Gideon (FISD Superintendent), Rilea Cook, Sharon Atwood, June Brown, Mary Yaeger, and Mary Phillips organized Octoberfest - what started as a Halloween carnival would evolve into the Frankston Square Fair
 - This event took place at the old Frankston School building
 - The following year, 1976 - Octoberfest was moved to Frankston city square - became known as Square Fair
 - Bicentennial event
 - Helped raise money to fund the restoration of the Frankston Depot
 - June served as one of the main organizers for many years
 - Organized booths / set up the park for vendors
- Festival Committee - served as a member
 - Main goal was to restore the Frankston Depot
 - Held bake sales, fundraisers, concerts
 - Committee published Frankston & Its Neighbors
 - A book about the history of Frankston
 - Profits from the book helped raise some of the funds that would help restore the Depot
- Citizen of the Year - Frankston Lion's Club - 1975
- Inducted to Delta Kappa Gamma in 1989
 - Professional Society for Women Educators
- UT Tyler
 - Following her retirement, June served as a student teacher mentor for UT Tyler. She helped several teaching students through their student teaching positions at FISD - some of them are still teaching here today!
- Frankston Library Committee
 - Member for the past 3 years
 - Helps promote and maintain the Frankston Depot Library
- Poynor City Cemetery Committee
 - Member since the mid 2000s
 - Serves as the Secretary now
 - Helps organize, fundraise, and maintain the cemetery
 - Land for the cemetery was donated by Civil War era great-grandfather
 - Dickerson Family - Ruby McLane's side of the family

What she means to our family:

June has lived a very successful and interesting life, accomplishing things that many never even aspire to do. While all of those things are important and notable, to us, she is best known for being a wonderful mother and even better Mimi. Travis maintained the dairy until 2007 when the decline in the dairy market forced him to sell the cows and discontinue milk production. The loss of the dairy was sad for the family, but ultimately gave him more free time, which coupled with June's retirement in 2011 allowed them to take more trips together and see more of the country



than they had before. Their time together was cut short on December 7th, 2012, as Travis passed unexpectedly. Our family was devastated. A true pillar of strength, June pulled our family through the heartbreak and helped us continue to move forward. In their 46 years of marriage, they created a family of 2 sons, 2 daughters-in-law, 3 grandsons, and 2 granddaughters. Sadly, Travis never got to meet his youngest granddaughter. June is the best cook and baker, though she will not admit that. She is best known, in our world, for her potato salad, crunchy steak, and Italian Cream Cake. She is a jack of all trades - if you don't know how to do something, she probably does and even if you do know how to do something, she's most likely better at it than you. She is crafty and creative, skills that gave her an advantage in her elementary classrooms. She knows everything there is to know about our family heritage and lineage. If you think I'm joking, ask my 7th cousin, Andrew Dansby. Our English teacher, Kathi Casey, did not believe we were 7th cousins, so she drew us a family tree during 4th period English class! She is a huge history buff and loves movies - her old VHS movie catalog is massive, and organized alphabetically based on title and starring actor last names. She spends her time reading for book club, traveling with her highschool best friends, going to sporting/gymnastics/shooting events for her three youngest grandchildren, and calling her two oldest grandchildren for help with her technology! She is truly the glue that holds our family together, and we wouldn't be here if it wasn't for her!

Please accept our Wall of Honor nomination for June McLane Brown. We believe her commitment and contributions to our community over qualify her for this wonderful honor.

— The Family of June Brown

To the committee of The Wall of Honor at Frankston ISD, I nominate Mrs. June McLane Brown.

I cannot think of another person in the FISD family who more personifies, communicates and inspires others in the priceless of a good education.

For several years she was the anchor leg of a blockbuster team of 2nd grade teachers that included legendary names like Brown, Coker, Hyde and Moore. If your child passed through that 2nd grade department, you knew your child would be taught and loved.

Because, June is a renaissance woman of sorts--an iron butterfly, a Full Metal Jacket Drill Instructor balanced out against the tenderness of heart found in a Taylor Swift song. I've heard it said that to be a teacher you have to be tough, know how to cry, know when to cry; and these things we saw in June day in and day out.

I first met June in the summer of 1981, at church. I was 24 at the time and convinced that my window of opportunity to study for a university degree was closed. My training in a private religious school meant my chance for a college degree—let's say that train had already left the station; or so I thought. That's when I met June Brown and her sister Mary Phillips. Both of whom, though outside the age of the traditional college students, were returning to school to complete/change degree plans. It was through this example that I decided 24 is not too old, that it was not too late to return to school and complete my degree. I owe to Ms. Brown (and Mary Phillips) much thanks for being sources of inspiration I needed to start and finish my education.

My return to college to finish my degree was marked by a unique turn of events. I enrolled in a College Modern Grammar class during a mini-semester (that means they cover a lot of material in a short period of time)—which is not the way or the time to study College Grammar. On the first day of class I looked up and there sat 2nd grade teacher Ms. June Brown in the front row. I took the class because I needed it for graduation; June took the class, I think, because she thought it was fun—you have to understand Ms. Brown to appreciate that! So, on at least one

occasion, I found myself at June's kitchen table getting grade-saving-late-night-tutorial-help from this 2nd grade teacher--(Reference again the drill instructor citation in earlier paragraph)! By the time the class was over June could have taught the course, as well as, if not better than the named professor.

After completing her teaching on the elementary campus, she accepted the District Testing Coordinator assignment. That meant she would sail into uncharted waters in a job never before performed on the district level. But with the State Testing requirements becoming more and more an untamable sea, June brought the same drive that sent her back to school as a non-traditional student, that distinguished herself classroom-wise, she applied that same determination at district level, bringing common sense organizational structure to a black hole of State testing madness. Through her office all administrators became more familiar with critical testing dates, testing readiness, testing procedures and of course compliance. In the midst of all personnel immersing themselves in data, June always remembered behind each number stood a child, a real person, with hopes, dreams and a future.

It is rarified air for a person to graduate from the same school he/she is employed at—very few do so. In June's case she not only learned here, taught here but excelled both as a learner and a teacher. Do yourself a favor and look back over the year books when June was on the FHS campus from 1961 to her senior year 1964. Page after page documents her activities (Take a deep breath her student attainments are many—this list only cites her Jr. and Sr. year): Her Junior year she was in cheerleading, Yearbook Secretary Treasurer, Varsity Basketball, Student Council, played the role of Marie Stewart in the Junior play "Tonight's the Night" and was selected Miss FHS for 1963. In her 1964 senior year the pace only accelerated. She was Editor on the Yearbook staff, Varsity Basketball, Student Council President, Lead Actress in in the Senior Play "Pick A Dilly", Treasurer for Senior Class Officers, FFA Sweetheart for 1964, and named back-to-back Miss FHS for the 1963 and 1964 school years. From student, to teacher, to administrator June McLane Brown has been an asset to the Frankston Independent School District at every level, every phase. And if you ask her, she'll tell you, "I bleed Frankston Blue and White".

It is my privilege to recommend for the FISD's Wall of Honor, Mrs. June McLane Brown.

Chris White,

Retired Middle School Principal, Sophomore/Senior English 2019

To whom it may concern,

It is my understanding that Mrs. June Brown is being nominated as a candidate for Frankston ISD's Wall of Honor. I am writing this letter to relay to you my most sincere support for this endeavor and to express to you why I believe she is most worthy of an honor such as this. Mrs. Brown made an impact on my life of which I can scarcely describe, but I am committed to serving her in this way in hopes that her legacy will shine brightly for her children, grandchildren, and former students.

My name is Emma Liles (formerly Shewmake), and Mrs. Brown was my 2nd grade teacher for the 2000-2001 school year. On September 1st, 2000, merely weeks into the brand new school year, my father lost a hard-fought battle with an opioid addiction and died just two weeks before my 8th birthday. My family's life had been turned upside down overnight, and my memories of that time are very blurred—very dull and dark. Though twenty-three long years have passed since I was a bereaved child in need of affection and stability, my memories of Mrs. Brown's class are still in vivid color; in fact, the only memories I can recall from the time right after my dad's death are memories that I have from being in Mrs. Brown's class.

Immediately following the death of my father, I didn't return to school for several days. I remember feeling completely star-struck when Mrs. Brown made a special trip to our house, coming inside and sitting down on the couch next to me to comfort me. I couldn't believe that my teacher was in my house—it was like being visited by a celebrity! She gave me a large manila envelope filled with hand-made cards that my classmates had made me to express their sympathy; I still have all of those cards in my possession to this day. I remember her plopping me onto her lap and rocking me back and forth, whispering maternally into my ear as I allowed

the waves of emotion to wash over me. In that moment, and for the rest of the school year, she was a safe place.

If I had to draw a picture of her classroom by memory, I could; it was my slice of heaven and my reprieve from grief and loss. Her classroom was the word abundance manifest; there was a cubby wall full of snacks, and each member of the class got to take turns each day choosing which snack the class would share that day. There were buckets of prizes, stuffed animals, supplies, colors, movies—at Christmas time, there were lights and tinsel. There were prisms hanging in the window that cast rainbows on the floor and walls, and there were dozens (if not hundreds) of books and drawings and papers and posters. As a mother, I am very emotional as I write this—I am still blown away by how special it was to be a child in an environment such as this. It was a magical place full of light and love and plenty. It was the most perfect, most vividly colorful respite for a little girl who needed safety and joy. That classroom is where I fell in love with learning.

I still remember several of the assignments we participated in. We published hard-back books about pumpkins after taking a trip to the pumpkin patch. There was a high school senior (Briana Gonzalez) who visited our classroom every Friday to read us Junie B. Jones. We learned how to read an analog clock and took turns taking home a bear named Rusty and writing in his diary from his point of view. We had a Christmas party and did photoshoots with tinsel in our hair. We practiced our handwriting, learned about science outdoors, and did math problems on the board. We played games and ate tons of snacks. She let us draw prizes as rewards for good conduct. I even remember small things she taught us, like the phrase “This is the first day of the rest of my life,” or to never stand on a chair with the back-rest behind you.

Above all of that, though, was the atmosphere of safety and belonging that Mrs. Brown cultivated in her classroom. She was so warm and so inviting—I never second-guessed that I was safe and loved when I was in her charge. During one of the darkest and most confusing times in my life, she carefully curated an environment in which all of my most basic needs were met: I was safe, I was loved, and I was well-fed—and therefore, I learned. I loved learning. I loved exploring and trying new things. That year was the beginning of the trajectory of the rest of my life. And now, as a 31 year old mother and former teacher, I can only pray that my own son will have access to an educator like Mrs. Brown so that he too can fall in love with learning in a safe and nurturing environment such as the one she created for us.

I attended Frankston ISD from kindergarten through my senior year, and as an alumni, I can honestly testify that I was beyond fortunate to have studied under some truly incredible educators who enriched my life and my education. I am a first-generation college graduate with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English, a Master of Education in Instruction and Curriculum, and I am getting ready to graduate with my second Master's degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling. By the end of this year, I will be a Licensed Professional Counselor with a background in public education. Without the support and dedication of my teachers at Frankston, I would not have been able to achieve what I have today. Mrs. June Brown stands out from the crowd, however, as an educator worthy of honor and the legacy that precedes her—I experienced her as the teacher and nurturer that saved my life and fostered in me a love of reading and learning. I shudder to think about what my life or the state of my soul would have been like if I had experienced the loss of a parent and had attended a school with a teacher that didn't love me or care for me the way she did. She was the first teacher who made me feel like I was truly special and seen and loved—and for that, I could never begin to thank her. She shaped my

self-esteem and self-concept during the most sensitive and fragile time in my life, and for that, I will always be thankful and humbled.

Mrs. June Brown deserves a place wherever there is honor being bestowed. I honor her. I am humbled to have had the opportunity to be her obedient pupil. I wish I could go back and relive that magical year in her class.

With earnest hope and sincerity,

Emma Shewmake Liles

June and I have been best friends for over 70 years! June has never done anything halfway and she is very devoted to any task. June and I graduated in 1964 from Frankston ISD, with a wonderful class. We are still very close.

My children never had her in school, but she taught them in Sunday school. Her true calling was to be a teacher. We rarely go anywhere that a student of hers doesn't come up to her and give her a hug. She was a truly devoted teacher. She has mentored many new teachers, and always committed to her students.

June's devotion and dedication is only exceeded by her generosity by insuring her students have the necessary supplies and tools for learning.

Love my chosen sister, June!

— Kay McDonald (Cook)

December 15, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

June McLane Brown was the eleventh and last child born in her family. She was born in an old house on Bizzell Road and lived most of her life in Frankston, where she resides today.

All of Mrs. Brown's public education was received in Frankston schools. She is a proud graduate of Frankston High School.

After high school graduation, June attended Henderson County Junior College in Athens for one year. She married Travis Brown and they moved to Nacogdoches where he attended college at Stephen F. Austin. During that time, June worked in a bank, as she also did after moving to Orange, Texas.

Along the way, June substitute taught at LaPoynor and Frankston schools. This is when June realized she wanted to be a teacher. When Seth, her second son, started kindergarten at Frankston Elementary, she began her college education at the University of Texas – Tyler, where she graduated in 1983. Her Master's Degree in Education was also attained there.

June's illustrious career in education began in August of 1986 at Frankston Elementary School. Below are her duties and dates of service while at Frankston Independent School District:

- August 1986 – 2000: 5th grade for 14 years; self-contained at the beginning, then changed to departmentalized Social Studies and Math
- August 2000 – 2006: 2nd grade, self-contained
- 2006 – 2011: District Testing Coordinator/At Risk/Response to Intervention (RTI)*'
- Retired, May 2011

Mrs. Brown was my testing coordinator and she carried out her duties according to Texas Education Agency guidelines. Her standards were high and she expected no less from

the faculty. The reasons for such high standards (perfection) were two-fold: she did not want Frankston Independent School District in trouble with TEA and, that is just how June Brown operated, doing her best. The same criterion was used when she was in charge of the At Risk and RTI programs.

In 1975, Mrs. Brown, along with several other women, began work on the Bi-Centennial Festival. This celebration, in 1976, was called Square Fair. The Frankston Lions Club honored the Bi-Centennial Festival committee as Citizens of the Year for 1976.

When June was teaching, she was an active member of the Frankston Delta Kappa Gamma professional society for women educators. Currently, she is an active member of a local book club, serves on the Frankston Depot Library board and is a member of the Poynor Cemetery Association. She has recently completed a detailed map of the plots at the cemetery. This volunteer endeavor took months.

June is a lifelong member of the Church of Christ. She taught Sunday School classes for over 25 years at the Frankston Church of Christ, where she still worships.

Family is priority with June. Currently, she keeps Highway 31 hot between Frankston and Corsicana, where she helps with her three youngest grandchildren. Her grown grandchildren are just as precious to her, but they do not require babysitting!

Travel is an activity June enjoys immensely. She and her travel companions visit abroad, as well as places in the United States.

Please consider adding June Brown to the Frankston Wall of Honor. Her contributions to our school and community, both past and present, are proof she is deserving of such an honor.

Sincerely,
Mary Cox