



Flower arrangements fill the front of the room as former school board member Gary Zeitler, a friend of Dennis Bennett for many years, speaks to the crowd that attended Bennett's funeral Monday afternoon. Zeitler said that Bennett was a kind superintendent that enjoyed visiting the students and teachers of each campus multiple times every week.

Photo / Brian Smith

Jacksboro says farewell to former sup

By Brian Smith

news@jacksboronewspapers.com

Former Jacksboro ISD Superintendent Dennis Bennett was celebrated Monday afternoon before a full house at JHS Gym.

He was killed in an accident Thursday, Feb. 28. Family, friends and members of law enforcement came to pay their final respects to him. Pastor Justin Hillhouse

of First Baptist Church, Jacksboro remembered Bennett as a "kind, compassionate, knowledgeable, coworker who loved his family." He always put God first and Linda and his family second, Hillhouse said.

Former school board member Gary Zeitler remembered Bennett as a great businessman and educator.

See SERVICE page 3

Service

Continued from page 1

"He was always so proud of his teachers and came by to visit the schools two or three times a week," Zeitler said. "He enjoyed spending time with everyone."

Zeitler said he was proud of his own family with first wife Beverly and his adopted family with wife Linda.

"He was as quick as any kid with a cell phone to show pictures of the grandkids," Zeitler said to laughter.

All of the four celebrants to the nearly two-hour service had stories of how they met and

how Bennett and his second wife Linda Green met after the death of his first wife Beverly. Bennett was a big fan of music, playing drums in the First Baptist praise band, so it was not surprising Dennis met Linda at a concert and married her a short time later.

Minister of Music at First Baptist Church Jacksboro Therrol Du Bois said that Bennett loved music and was "engrossed in the music of God as a drummer."

"The stories we've heard today have been consistent over the last 30 years right now," Al-

lan Barbee said. "We've had time to ask why was Dennis taken from us so early and we'll all deal with his passing in different ways."

All four men agreed that Bennett was not a perfect man but was forgiven and everyone in the room had been touched by him in some way. Pictures and video of Bennett over the years were shown, including a fishing trip with a grandson that showed the absolute joy Bennett had for life.

Following the service, Bennett's burial was held at Oakwood Cemetery.