



2022
LEGACY
INDUCTEE



Bobby Mueller

Legacy, Pitmaster, Restaurateur

Bobby's father Louie Mueller opened Louie Mueller Barbecue in 1949 in Taylor. Louie wasn't a cook, and he hired others to develop the barbecue. Bobby Mueller took over the pits in 1974. Under his watch, the restaurant became a Central Texas barbecue icon. It received the James Beard Americas Classics award in 2006, and has been considered one of the best barbecue joints in the state for most of its existence.

Beyond his restaurant, the legacy of Bobby, who passed away in 2008, looms large. The people who worked under him went on to run other great Texas barbecue joints. Lance Kirkpatrick is the pitmaster at Stiles Switch in Austin which now has three locations. His son John Mueller and daughter LeAnn have both gone on to run their own successful barbecue joints, and his other son Wayne Mueller currently keeps the pits going at the original in Taylor.

Bobby also helped usher in the popularity of the massive beef short ribs which have become synonymous with Texas barbecue of late. It was a signature item at Louie Mueller long before it was popular statewide. Not to mention that he registered TexasBBQ.com as the web address for Louie Mueller Barbecue. Bobby Mueller was visionary, and his work and legacy has been eminently influential in Texas barbecue.