

Rutledge, James Britton ‘Pete’ | 1924-2012

Published Saturday, October 27, 2012

Funeral for the Rev. James Britton “Pete” Rutledge, 88, of Lindale Club Lake, is 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 28, at Mt. Sylvan Baptist Church with Dr. Mark Neely and the Rev. Bruce Rudd officiating.

Burial will follow at the Lindale City Cemetery under the direction of Caudle-Rutledge Funeral Directors in Lindale.

Rev. Rutledge died Thursday, Oct. 25, 2012, at the Hospice Homeplace in Tyler. He was born Jan. 13, 1924, in Blue Ridge, the second child of nine to Robert Eber and Thelma Era Britton Rutledge. He grew up in Benjamin, where he graduated high school and was a veteran of World War II, serving in the U.S. Army Air Corps.

In 1956, he was ordained to preach and was licensed in 1957, moving to Fort Worth where he graduated from the Southwestern Theological Seminary. While at the seminary, he was a barber and pastored the Oak Ridge Baptist Church in Boswell, Okla., and the Trinity Baptist Church in Hugo, Okla.

Upon graduation, he pastored the Springlake Baptist Church in Paris followed by pastorates at the Flint Avenue Baptist Church in Lubbock, First Baptist Church in Lindale, First Baptist Church in Decatur, Dixie Baptist Church in Tyler, Mt. Sylvan Baptist Church in Mt. Sylvan and the Dover Baptist Church in Carroll. He also served as an interim pastor for many other churches in East Texas.

Rutledge was preceded in death by his parents and sisters Latrice Harper and Jane Draper.

He is survived by his wife of 69 years, Mrs. Jimmie Lou Rutledge; daughter Marilynn Eledge; son and daughter-in-law C. James and Janet Rutledge; grandchildren Craig Adams and wife, Jeanna, Allison Rutledge, and Cory Paul Rutledge and wife, Cassie; and great-grandchildren Ethan, Mason, Madison and Mackenzie Adams.

Other survivors include brothers Robert E. Jr. “Bobby” Rutledge and wife, Billie, and Marion B. “Buzz” Rutledge and wife, Laverne; sisters Glenda Martin, Betty Meek and husband, Henry, Sallye McCarty, and Nancy Lou Smith and husband, Hollis; as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers will be Craig Adams, Cory Paul Rutledge, Charles C. McAuley, Mike Ficke, John Raleigh Leonard, Kenneth James, Danny Adams and Mike Caudle.

Visitation is 6 to 8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 27, at the funeral home.

Memorials may be made to the Hospice of East Texas, 4111 University Blvd., Tyler, TX 75701.