

Roberts, Ronald Burton | 1934-2013

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Ronald Burton Roberts

Ronald (Ronnie) Burton Roberts, 78, of Denton died Saturday, March 9, 2013, at his home.

Funeral is 11 a.m. Thursday, March 14, at First Baptist Church in Denton with the Rev. Cliff Feeler officiating. Graveside service is 2:30 p.m. Thursday at Bridgeport's East Side Cemetery.

Visitation is 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at Mulkey-Mason Funeral Home in Denton.

Ronnie was born Oct. 2, 1934, in Bridgeport to Mildred Loraine Singleton Roberts and Elmer Loyd Roberts. He was a member of the First Baptist Church of Denton. He was raised in Bridgeport, graduating from BHS in 1951. He participated in sports, lettered in football and was voted Mr. BHS of 1951-1952. He married Terry Morris Monett March 22, 1952.

Ronnie attended UNT, Texas A&M Extension in College Station and Hawes-Kaplan University in Dallas. He was employed by Moore Business Forms in Denton for 34 years, serving as plant manager in Denton and Temecula, Calif. He had a 16-year second career as a licensed realtor with Jimmy Brown in Denton and served as president of the Moore Retired Employees from 1994-2012.

A strong supporter of school sports and youth baseball, he served as president of Denton Boys Baseball for 13 years and coached for 24 years. He led a bond election that resulted in the construction of the Denton Senior Center, Denia and North Lakes Recreation Centers, tennis courts and multiple baseball, softball, soccer and football fields. He also served on the Denton Parks and Recreation Board for six years and was a state director of Texas Teenage Baseball for several years, receiving the TTAB Memorial Award for Outstanding State Tournament for boys 15-16.

As a result of his work with the community, the Denton City Council honored him and his wife by naming the baseball field at Mack Park Roberts Field.

During his 34 years as a football official, Ronnie served as president and vice president of the Denton Chapter of Southwest Football Officials. He was active in the Bryan/College Station Chapter and officiated the Texas All-Star High School Football game in 1989.

Ronnie's love for his church was illustrated in his leadership as a deacon, Sunday School superintendent, teacher and youth leader at the Bridgeport Assembly of God Church. He sang gospel music as a soloist and worked in several churches as interim music leader. Ronnie was a director of the Career Singles and also served as a greeter during the Christmas production of the Living Christmas Tree while at First Baptist Denton.

One of the highlights of his life was in 2010 when he was inducted onto the Bridgeport High School Wall of Fame. Ronnie and his wife made many trips to Branson, New York City and the West Coast. Their favorite was Branson.

Ronnie is survived by his wife of more than 60 years, Terry; daughter Diane Stevens and husband, Steve; sons Joe Roberts and wife, Anne, and Byrle Roberts and Nina Roberts, all of Denton; grandchildren Robby Stevens and wife, Denise, of Saginaw, Austin Ryder Roberts, Christopher James Roberts and Erin Nicole Roberts, all of Denton; great-grandchildren Maya and Ella Stevens of Saginaw; brother Tommy Jay Roberts and wife, Claudia, of Fort Worth; sister Vicki Shisler and husband, Don, of both Bridgeport and Fort Worth; and nephews, nieces, cousins and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his daughter, Beverly; his parents; grandparents; and many aunts and uncles.

The family wishes to express their appreciation to the staff at Good Samaritan Society, 2500 Hinkle, and American Hospice, 300 N. Elm, both in Denton. Memorials may be made to Denton Boys Baseball Inc.

Online condolences may be left at www.mulkeymasondenton.com.