



Watson, Lawrence Derrell

1938-2019

By [Messenger Staff](#) | Published on November 13, 2019

Lawrence Derrell Watson passed away Friday, Nov. 8, 2019, at Redmond Hospital in Rome, Ga., at 81 years of age.

The memorial service will be held 11 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 16 at the First United Methodist Church in Alvord.

Lawrence was born Aug. 28, 1938, in Decatur to Charlie and Loreene Watson. He grew up in Decatur and attended Decatur High School. He continued his education at Dallas Baptist College, where he was on a basketball scholarship. He married Rosemary Nikirk in 1959, and they

resided in Alvord.

While living in Alvord, Lawrence was the leader of the First United Methodist Church's youth group, and led a trip for the youth to the Texas World Fair. He was a very active member of the Alvord community, serving as mayor, and organized the bi-centennial celebration, and also had the first tennis courts installed in Alvord, working with any youth that was interested in learning how to play. Lawrence also worked for Braniff Airlines for 25 years, and then opened Watson Equipment Cleaning in Alvord, which he operated for several years.

Lawrence and Rosemary moved to Cartersville, Ga., to be with their family, where he was a licensed Real Estate Agent for ReMax, and for Diann Tilley and The Tilley Team with ReMax.

He then became an owner/operator for RMW Trucking, and drove for many years until retirement. He made many friends, who were also fellow truck drivers, including Ray Carballo and Jimmy Star, whom he loved like sons.

Lawrence was a member of the Euharlee Presbyterian Church, and served on the board. Later in life, he attended the Stone Church.

He was an avid sports fan, and enjoyed watching tennis, college and professional football and college basketball. He was an avid tennis player and thoroughly enjoyed fishing, and listening to old time country music. Fishing was by far his favorite activity.

He was a man of inspiring faith in the Lord. He was dedicated to being a husband, father, grandfather, and friend to many. His home was a place of family celebrations and traditions.

Lawrence was preceded in death by his wife of 58 years, Rosemary Watson, as well as parents, Charlie and Loreene Watson, sister Charlene Watson, and sister-in-law Jackie Nikirk.

Lawrence is survived by his daughters Diann Watson Tilley and, husband, Alvin Tilley, and Dana Lampropoulos and husband, Takis Lampropoulos; brother Kenneth Watson and wife, Jackie Watson of Temple; sister-in-law Joy Waller and husband, John Waller; six grandchildren; 12 great grandchildren and several nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Lawrence fought a very hard battle for many years, and was a strong man until his very last breath. Memorial donations may be made to the First United Methodist Church, 100 West Washington Street, Alvord, TX 76255 or Pleasant Grove Cemetery No. 3 c/o Doris Neighbors, 4965 CR 2690 Alvord, TX 76225.