

Welch, Doyle W. | 1933-2011

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Funeral for Doyle W. Welch, 77, of Copperas Cove, formerly of Bridgeport, was June 20 at First Baptist Church in Copperas Cove with Mark Kemp officiating. Burial followed at North Santo Cemetery in Santo.

Welch died Thursday, June 16, 2011, in Copperas Cove.

Born Aug. 23, 1933, in Weatherford to Doyle S. Welch and Iona B. (Hamilton) Welch, he married Melba Jo Noonkester June 28, 1951, in Portales, N.M.

He had a doctoral degree in theology and was a member of First Baptist Church in Copperas Cove.

Welch was Past Master of Santo Masonic Lodge No. 836 A.F. & A.M., a Shriner, a board member for the Welch Foundation, a member of the Copperas Cove Quarterback Club, the Copperas Cove Lions Club and America's Drug Free Productions.

He was an All-State basketball player and officiated basketball games, including games in the Southwest Conference. He also played Minor League Baseball for the Brooklyn Dodgers.

Welch was preceded in death by sister Helen Jo Daniel; and grandchild Chad Evan Welch.

He is survived by his wife; sons Gary Wendell Welch and wife, Faith, Jackie Steve "Jack" Welch and wife, Carol, and Tracy Doyle Welch and wife, Sheri, all of Copperas Cove; brothers Carol Duane Welch of Keller and Ronnie Gerald Welch of Baird; and grandchildren Joshua Doyle Welch, Steven Lee Welch, Daniel Russell, Kaylee Joleen Welch, Caleb Thomas Welch and Matthew Hunter Welch.

Pallbearers were Joshua Doyle Welch, Steven Lee Welch, Daniel Russell, Caleb Welch, Glynn Powell, Jim Copeland, Dale Ables and Mike Wilburn.

Memorials may be made to the Welch Foundation, 2846 Tonkawa Road, Copperas Cove, TX 76522 to benefit and assist children.