

Allen Ray Young | 1928-2015

Published Wednesday, June 3, 2015

Tags: Decatur



Allen Ray Young

Allen Ray Young, 86, of Decatur died Tuesday, May 26, 2015, in Decatur.

Funeral is 10 a.m. Saturday, June 6, at Sycamore Baptist Church with the Rev. Casey Lewis officiating. Burial will follow at Sycamore Cemetery. Visitation is 6 to 8 p.m. Friday at Coker-Hawkins Funeral Home in Decatur. Pallbearers are James Maples, Trey Young, Kent Cain, Chris Cain, Trent Young and Gary Caraway.

Allen Ray was born Aug. 28, 1928, in Sycamore to James and Minnie (Trussell) Young. He married Nelda Ramey March 4, 1954, in Decatur. Allen Ray grew up in the Sycamore community on the family farm. He graduated from Slidell High School in 1944, Decatur Baptist College in 1946 and North Texas State University in 1949. He later earned his master's degree from NTSU.

Allen Ray began teaching at Decatur Junior High in 1949, but this career was interrupted by his military service. Young was a corporal in the U.S. Army in 1951-52, serving in Germany during the Korean War. In 1954 he returned to teaching and coaching at Decatur Junior High. He retired as principal of Decatur Elementary after 38 years with the district. Retirement meant he could devote his time to his livestock on the Sycamore farm. He also served on the Slidell School Board. Allen Ray was an active member of the Sycamore Baptist Church. During his years there, he served as a deacon and taught a men's Bible class.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers Lawrence, T.H. and John Bob Young; and sister Aquilla Maples. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Nelda Young of Decatur; nephews Fred R. Maples and wife, Trumanell, of Decatur, Tommy Young and wife, Christy, of Garland, and John Young and wife, Jennifer, of Fort Worth; nieces Barbara Simpson and husband, Ken, of Arlington, Nora Faye Cain and husband, Johnny, of Decatur, Barbeth Van Baush and husband, Dave, of Atlanta, Ga., and Charlotte Smith of Atlanta; and many friends. Donations may be made in his memory to the Decatur Education Foundation.