

Bates, George W. | 1921-2017

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George Bates

George W. Bates, 95, of Decatur, died Saturday, Feb. 25, 2017, in Decatur.

Funeral is 10 a.m. Thursday, March 2, at Victory Family Church, 400 W. U.S. 380 in Decatur with his son, the Rev. Allen Bates, of Victory Family Church, officiating. Burial will follow at the Archer City Cemetery under the direction of Aulds Funeral Home.

Visitation is 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 1, at Coker-Hawkins Funeral Home in Decatur.

George was born Nov. 26, 1921, in Lubbock to Owen Mackafee and Nanny Moore Bates. He attended school in Holliday. George married Cleota Smith Feb. 7, 1942, in Walters, Okla. He worked for Gifford-Hill American Pipe Co. for 45 years as a field superintendent and traveled all over Texas until his retirement in 1990.

In 1989, George moved to Decatur. He was a charter member of Victory Family Church in Decatur.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and his wife. He was also preceded in death by daughter Gloria Purdy, on April 28, 2011; and son George L. Bates on Feb. 16, 2017.

George is survived by his daughters, Diane Sartain and husband, Jim, of Eagle Mountain Lake and Evelyn Ryan of Decatur; son Allen Bates and wife, Velda, of Decatur; son-in-law Jack Purdy of Sherman; and daughter-in-law Mary Ann Bates of Clay County.

He is also survived by grandchildren Bryon Sartain and wife, Pam, of De Soto, Darin Sartain of Colleyville, Robby Sartain of Saginaw, Janet Price and husband, Alan, of Bowie, Gabriele Bates of Grand Prairie, Misty deMelo and husband, James, of Carrollton, Wesley Sisk and wife, Becky, of Farmersville, Richard Bates and wife, Cortny, of Wichita Falls, Joshua Purdy and wife, Stephanie, of Corpus Christi, Christy Ryan of Denton, Chris Bates and wife, Kate, of Decatur, Jennifer Ryan of Poteau, Okla., and Jessica Cobb and husband, Cody, of Decatur; numerous great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be made to Victory Family Church, P.O. Box 32, Decatur, TX 76234.