



Emmett Howard "Hank" Watson

June 14, 1936 - December 5, 2015

Funeral services for Emmett Howard "Hank" Watson, age 79, of Rusk are scheduled for 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, December 9, 2015 in the First Baptist Church in Rusk with Rev. Lee Welch, Rev. Don Copeland, Rev. Jacob Fitzgerald and Rev. Donnie Barron officiating. Interment will be in Salem Cemetery under the direction of Wallace-Thompson Funeral Home.

Mr. Watson passed away December 5, 2015 in Tyler, TX. He was born June 14, 1936 in Rusk to the late Emmett B. and Odelle Wilcox Watson. Mr. Watson attended Rusk High School and graduated from Jacksonville High School, attended Alvin Jr. College, Retail Credit Management School in Atlanta, Georgia and was a graduate of Southwest Graduate School of Banking at SMU, Dallas, TX. He began his banking career at First State Bank while a student at Rusk High School and worked for several banks throughout Texas before moving to Oklahoma where he worked sixteen years for Shamrock Bancshares as president of the First National Bank in Coalgate, OK. He served on the board of directors for Clayton State Bank, Bryan County National Bank, Mountain View National Bank and First National Bank of Coalgate. He retired in 2001 and returned to his home town of Rusk. Hank was a kind and gentle man with a great sense of humor. He loved his family, and was a trusted friend. He enjoyed working with the community theatres and performed in several productions. After retirement he enjoyed working a short time for the (KTLU) radio station as host of Talk Time. But his greatest enjoyment was his horses and trail riding. He loved the Lord and was a

member of the Rusk First Baptist Church.

He was preceded in death by his two sons, Michael Howard Watson and Richard Kent Watson, his parents; grandparents; sister, Norma Jeanelle Barnes, and brother-in-law Jack Barnes. He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Jimmye Walters Watson of Rusk; two beloved daughters-in-law, Patsy Watson of Seabrook, TX and Pamela Watson of Channelview, TX; four grandchildren, Amanda Watson Hargrave, Richard Kent Watson II, Brooke Watson Massey and husband Kyle, and Meredith Watson; seven great grandchildren, David, Addison, and Courtlyn Findlay, Avarie and Emily Hargrave, Jaxon and Savannah Massey; niece, Sharon Barnes and two nephews, Clifford Barnes and Gary Barnes and wife Paula; four aunts, Lora Caperton, Lorraine Hardy; Jane Naski; and Vernene Odon and husband Bennie; a number of cousins and a host of friends.

Pallbearers will include Jerry Pipes, Donnie Wilcox, Charles Wilcox, Glen Wilcox, Wayne Josey and Kenneth Arrington. Honorary pallbearers will be John Blank, Charles Ramey, Ernest Hudnall, Ed Hassell, David Cagnon, Jim Goforth, James Campbell, Ken Peloquin, Sam Florian, Doug Gowin, Dominic Taraborelli, Don Woodard, Ken Pye, JoEd Anderson and Tracy Max Arrington. Visitation will be from 12:00 noon to 1:45 p.m., Wednesday, December 9, 2015 at First Baptist Church.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, memorials, donations be made to the First Baptist Church Building Fund, PO Box 258, Rusk, TX 75785; or Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children, PO Box 199300, Dallas, TX 75219-9842; or The Hospice of East Texas, 4111 University Boulevard, Tyler, TX 75701; or charity of your choice.

Previous Events

Service

DEC 9. 2:00 PM (CT)

First Baptist Church
372 E. 4th Street
Rusk, Texas 75785
(903) 683-5494

Tribute Wall



“ Emmett Howard "Hank" Watson

October 04, 2023 at 11:30 AM



“ I was close to my cousin Howard's sisters age. Jeanelle stayed with my parents, my sister Shirley, and I and attended Kilgore Junior College until the crops were "laid by" and Odell, Emmett, and Howard could come live a while in Kilgore. Jeanelle and I liked to go to our radio station KOCA to hear and see a "cowboy" pick and sing.--Love You Jimmie--Maxine Cheply

Michael Drew Knarr - December 08, 2015 at 06:25 PM



“ Kenneth, Belinda, Tanya Simmons purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Emmett Howard "Hank" Watson.



Kenneth, Belinda, Tanya Simmons - December 08, 2015 at 07:50 AM

JS

“ *What a joy to know someone as special as Hank Watson! Hank is now getting to walk where angels have trod. I know you are enjoying all the beauty there in heaven---so look for me for I will be there too.*

*Your cousin,
Joyce Wilcox Sparkman*

Joyce Wilcox Sparkman - December 07, 2015 at 08:44 AM

SH

“ *Having spent some time with this man, listened to stories about this man and saw how he lived his life all the way to his final days, I have to say I always respected him for the way he lived his life and always knew how much he loved his family. I will always remember his smile, his laugh and how handsome he always looked.*

Shelley

Shelley - December 06, 2015 at 07:34 PM

SG

“ *Howard, my younger cousin, was a great childhood playmate. He and I would make up stories, and act them out. He was better at "cowboy" stories, and always had a pretend-horse.*

--Courage and much love to you, Jimmye, as you face each day.

Cousin Shirley (and John) Gumert

Shirley P. Gumert - December 06, 2015 at 06:36 PM



My Dad's first cousin. I met Hank about 14 years ago when he came back to Rusk to retire. I worked at the Rusk Post Office, so I saw him often. What a voice, what a man. Proud to be blood kin. Proud to be a friend. C. Wayne Josey

Wayne Josey - December 08, 2015 at 06:52 PM