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**BOBBY NOLAN
ATKINSON**

Mr. Bobby Nolan Atkinson, age 77 of Liberty, passed away Friday, June 29, 2007 in Liberty-Dayton Community Hospital from complications following a heart attack. Mr. Atkinson was born February 18, 1930 Pearson Chapel in Houston County, he was the second of four sons born to Leo and Jewel Atkinson and was a long time resident of Liberty.

Mr. Atkinson graduated from Lovelady High School in 1948 and married his childhood sweetheart, Barbara Daniel, on Christmas Day of that year. Trained as a butcher by his uncle, Mr. Atkinson was employed by Hooks Grocery in Crockett where he and his wife Barbara lived until 1952.

Their first child a daughter Cynthia was born in 1951. In July, 1952 Mr. Atkinson and his family moved to Liberty when he was hired by B.M. "Tad" LaFour, owner of La-Four's Super Value Grocery. This business grew and became Minimax in 1958.

Mr. Atkinson's family also grew as twins Robbye and Bobby were born to him and Barbara in 1963. The business continued to flourish, and Mr. Atkinson loyalty and hard work paid off when Mr. La-Four sold Minimax to his stepson Hubert Ray and to Mr. Atkinson in 1973. In 1976 Minimax moved into a new and larger store and continued as Liberty's leading grocery under their ownership until it was purchased by H.E.B. Mr. Atkinson officially retired in 1989.

Mr. Atkinson enjoyed hunting fishing and working in his yard but he most enjoyed the company of his family-his wife, children and grandchildren and family activities. In retirement Mr. Atkinson and Barbara took 15 cruises to the Caribbean and Alaska. A member of the First Baptist Church in Liberty since 1980 and active in the church also with Barbara until he was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease in 1994. Mr. Atkinson had been a resident of Golden Charm Nursing Home since 2001.

A well respected man in the community and beloved by his family and friends, he will be missed by all whose lives he touched.

Survivors include his wife of 58 years, Barbara Atkinson; three children Cynthia and John Henderson, of Livingston, Robbye and Dorrance Deakle, of Houston and Robert and Ellen Atkinson, of Liberty; eight grandchildren Chris and Jeff Henderson, Donnie deakle and Dawn Holland, Eric and Ashley Atkinson and Jessica and Laura Smith; and four great-grandchildren.

Funeral Services for Mr. Bobby Nolan Atkinson were held Monday, July 2, at 10:00 a.m. at the First Baptist Church of Liberty.

Allison Funeral Service