Grapeland Messenger - Thursday - February 8, 2001

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## Blackmon Rites Held

Funeral services for Leroy Blackmon, age 70, of Palestine were held Thursday, February 1,

at Bailey & Foster Chapel, Palestine, with Rev. Dean Easterling officiating. Burial followed in Denson Cemetery near Grapeland under the direction of Bailey & Foster, Palestine.

Pallbearers were George Blackmon, Pat Blackmon, Jerry Blackmon, Sam Blackmon, Kevin Blackmon, and Stephen Blackmon. Honorary pallbearers were Wayland Saxon and Mike Cox.

Mr. Blackmon died Tuesday night, January 30, 2001, at East Texas Medical Center in Tyler. He was born August 7, 1930, in Houston County to Tom and Mary Poole Blackmon. Mr. Blackmon was a conductor for Missouri Pacific Railroad and retired after 34 years of service. He was a deacon of Walston Springs Baptist Church and a member of the Elkhart Masonic Lodge.

Mr. Blackmon was preceded in death by his parents, a sister Opal Rossetter, and a son-inlaw Darryl Shipper.

Survivors include his wife, Wanda Hughes Blackmon, of Palestine; a daughter, Yvonne Shipper of Banks, Alabama; three sons, Mike Blackmon and Terry Blackmon, both of Palestine, and Mark Blackmon of Elkhart; two brothers, M. T. Blackmon of Palestine and Mickey Blackmon of Elkhart; eleven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.