



RAMON WELDON CALLAWAY

Ramon Weldon Callaway, 91 years of age, passed away Sunday afternoon, April 22, 2001 in Crockett. Born March 6, 1910 in Palestine, Anderson County, he was the son of Cleophas Homer and Sallye Rainey Lacy Callaway. As a young child he moved with his family to Crockett where he lived for most of his life. He graduated from Crockett High School in 1927 where he starred on the Crockett Football Squad. He attended the University of Texas in Austin. In 1935 he married Loreta Pennington. He lived and worked in Houston for Shell Oil Company and with his brother, Lester at the Callaway Funeral Home. With the death of his father in 1947, he returned home to Crockett to own and operate the Callaway Funeral Home with his brother, Herbert. In 1982 he was recognized for 50 years of service by the Texas Funeral Directors Association, Inc. Ten members of his family were licensed funeral directors, spanning four generations. In 1964, Ramon married Alma Knox Pratt, who preceded him in death in February 1988. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Crockett and prior to his death was the oldest living member of this congregation.

He served the church for many years on the Board of Stewards, the administrative board of the church. He helped to organize the first couples class at the church and was a past member of the chancel choir. Ramon was a member and past President of the Crockett Rotary Club. In 1954 he served as Commandery of Crockett Commandery #91 and also served this organization as Secretary for several years. He was a Past Worthy Patron of the Order of the Eastern Star, Crockett Chapter 509. He was a Charter and past member of Crockett Lodge 1729 B.P.O.E., serving for several years as Secretary. He served as Vice-President of the Texas East B.P.O. Elks. Ramon was a 32nd Degree Scottish Rite Mason and a member of Arabia Shrine Temple in Houston. He was a Past Master of Lothrop Lodge No. 21, A.F. and A.M. in Crockett where he was honored by his fellow Masons with a Life Membership. In 1962 he was appointed a member of the Masonic Home Development Committee and served in this capacity for several years. The Crockett Volunteer Fire Department honored Ramon for 33 years of continuous service both as a volunteer firefighter and an officer in this organization. Ramon was instrumental in the organization of the Crockett Little League and he was a sponsor of The Callaway Cubs, The oldest sponsorship in Texas. Ramon is survived by his five children, Ramona Callaway Koehl and husband, Wallace of Austin, Judy Callaway Ostler and husband, James of Crockett, Deborah Post Lightmire of Plano, Kimberly Callaway of

Crockett, and Ramon Weldon Callaway Jr. of Austin. He is also survived by six grandchildren, Richard L. Fulgham of San Marcos, Roger S. Fulgham of Leander, Jeffery S. Ostler and wife, Amy of Houston, Jennifer Ostler Kidder and husband, Michael Jr. of Atlanta, Ga., Andrew Lacy Callaway and Carter Knox Callaway of Crockett. Three great grandchildren, Brandon, Todd, and Ashton Fulgham of San Marcos and Ryan Fulgham of Leander; sisters, Anne Callaway Hatfield and Sallye Jean Callaway of Bryan. He is also survived by his close friend Jack Henigan, faithful caregiver, Bettie Hill Estelle of Crockett and numerous nieces and nephews, all who were very special to him.

Ramon was preceded in death by his parents, C.H. and Sallye Callaway; wife, Alma Knox Callaway; brothers, Lester H. Callaway of Houston, and Herbert Callaway of Crockett; and by his sister, Homer Lacy Callaway Jones of Bryan.

Ramon enjoyed hunting, fishing, and traveling. During his later years, he especially enjoyed genealogy. He was a Charter, Life, and Star Member of the Callaway Family Association, Inc.

Funeral services for Mr. Callaway were held at 2 p.m., Tuesday, April 24 at the First United Methodist Church in Crockett with Dr. Jerry House officiating. Interment service will follow at Evergreen Memorial Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the Ramon W. Callaway Scholarship Fund at the First United Methodist Church in Crockett.

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