

H.C.C. Thursday May 6, 2004

### DR. BEN LEE JOHNSON

Dr. Ben Lee Johnson, age 60 of Athens, passed away May 2. He left behind a legacy of love and used the gifts God gave him to minister to others as a servant of his Lord.

His many accomplishments included Valedictorian of Groveton High School, graduate of Texas A&M University and Southwestern Medical School with honors and

recipient of Fellowship to the American Academy of Family Practice. He began medical practice in 1964 in Athens. He served as president of the Henderson County Fair board, the Kiwanis Breakfast Club, the Henderson County Medical Society and was the Chief of Staff for the Henderson County Memorial Hospital. He held memberships in the Henderson County Beef Cattle Committee, Young Life Adult Committee, Athens Jaycees, AISD Board of Trustees, the Levee District Board, and the College of Agricultural Development Council. His honors included the Woodrow Walker Memorial Award and the Joe B. Fulgham Agriculturist Award. He was loved and respected by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Dr. Johnson was preceded in death by his father, William Morrow Johnson, brother Wayne Johnson and a nephew Brad McHaney.

Survivors include wife Patsy Johnson of Athens; mother Edna Johnson of Athens; sons Lee Johnson and wife Pam of Athens and Christopher Johnson and wife Amy of Kansas City, Mo.; daughters Annelle Johnson of Athens and Cathy Kirkland and husband Jeff of Athens; sisters Florine Hamilton and husband P.D. of Groveton and Frances Skeels and husband Lyle of Beaumont; grandchildren Jessica Johnson, Ashley and Elyssa Johnson, Will and Katie Kirkland and Caleb and Nathan Johnson; numerous nieces, nephews, aunts uncles and cousins.

Funeral services for Dr. Johnson were held May 4 at Dogwood Baptist Church at 10 a.m. Graveside service was held at 3 p.m. at the Glendale Cemetery in Glendale.

Pallbearers were Jim Kirkland, Buddy Anding, Calvin Gustin, Doug Humble, Lee Bush, Kenneth McGee, Bob Foster and Bill Kay.

Honorary pallbearers were Jon Edwards, M.D., Robert Rigo, M.D., Paul Micheals, M.D., Robert Eckert, M.D., Nolan Geddie, M.D., Harold Smitson, M.D., Doug Curran, M.D., Steve Walling, M.D., Ken Lemmon, M.D. and Joe Ed Smith, M.D.

Carroll-Lehr Funeral Home