

Davis

Melson Rites Here Wednesday

Funeral services for SSGT Kenneth William Melson, age 77, of Bryan were held at 1:00 p.m. Wednesday, May 12, in the First Baptist Church, Grapeland, with the Rev. Larry Dunn and the Rev. Albert Munsinger officiating. Burial followed in the Davis Cemetery, east of Grapeland.

Pallbearers were Ted Bradley, Dale Collier, Larry Green, Brad Houck, Matthew Johnson, Jason Leshe, Bud Melson and Jackie Melson.

Mr. Melson was born on December 14, 1921, in Tishomingo, Oklahoma, to Silas and Mattie Panola Melson. He passed away Saturday, May 8, 1999, at his home in Bryan after a courageous battle with cancer.

A twenty-three year veteran of the U.S. Army, Melson proudly served his country with honor and dignity in World War II as well as the Korean War, where he received numerous medals and commendations. He ended his military career as an Army ROTC instructor at Texas A&M University. Following his retirement from active service, he began a twenty-five year career as the maintenance supervisor of married student housing at Texas A&M University. A well-respected businessman, Mr. Melson also began Melson's Air Conditioning Service with his sons. He will be remembered not only for the love he had for his family, especially the children, but also his passion for gardening and woodwork. His unique wooden "cow sprinklers" grace yards all over Texas.

In addition to his parents, Kenneth was preceded in death by two brothers, S. M. Melson and Wayne Melson and sisters, Josie Fairchild and Izora Moore.

He is survived by his devoted wife, Donice, his companion and friend of 54 years; sons, Kenneth Melson and Michael Melson of Bryan; daughter, Donna Melson of Houston; grandchildren, Michelle Marshall, Heather Johnson and husband Matthew, Melanie Leshe and husband Jason, Michael Melson, Jr., Sabrina Melson and Shelly Melson; great grandchildren, Tristan Chambers and Hailey Leshe; brother, Cecil Melson and wife Winnie of Grapeland; sister, Ollie Collier and husband Vernon of Grapeland; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

In lieu of flowers, the family requested that memorials be made in Kenneth's name to Hospice Brazos Valley, 205 East 29th, Bryan, TX 77803.