

**BILLY C. NELSON**

Mr. Billy C. Nelson, age 80 of Houston, passed away Thursday, March 4, 2004. Mr. Nelson was born September 20, 1923 in Coalgate, Oklahoma, and resided in Houston for the past 10 years. Mr. Nelson was a member of Houston's First Baptist Church also he was a Mason and lifetime member of the Cascade Lodge #208 in Shady Cove, Oregon where he was Past Master and 32 degree Mason and member of Valley of Guthrie Lodge in Oklahoma. Mr. Nelson was retired from the U.S. Air Force where he was a gunner, after 21 years.

Survivors include his wife of 10 years Merlene Bridgewater Nelson, of Houston; one daughter Sandy Foster, of Chico, Calif.; three sons Larry Nelson, of Antioch, Calif., Bob Nelson and wife Yan, of San Francisco, Calif. and Bill Nelson, of Antioch, Calif.; one brother Paul Nelson and wife Cathy, of Antioch, Calif.; two step-daughters Susana Thielen and husband Joe, of Katy and Pat Bridgewater, of Buda; two step-sons Roger Bridgewater and wife Mary Ann, of Houston and B.I. Bridgewater and wife Twyla, of Castle Rock, Colo.; thirteen grandchildren; six great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were held Saturday, March 6, at 10:00 a.m. in the Morris Chapel of Houston's First Baptist Church with the Rev. Bill Lipps officiating.

In lieu of flowers the family requests donations be made to "Pray the Word Ministries," P.O. Box 924887, Houston, TX. 77292.

**Forest Park Westheimer  
Funeral Home**