

John Octa Skidmore

Funeral services for John Octa Skidmore, age 89 were held Saturday, August 30, 2003 at 3:00 p.m. at the Grapeland Church of Christ. Randy Harshbarger, minister at Stallings Drive Church of Christ in Nacogdoches and Alan Sanders of Elkhart officiated.

Pallbearers were John McMurtray, Clay Herndon, Allen Watson, Mitchell Holloway, Victor Chapa and Chris Hale.

Mr. Skidmore passed away peacefully at his home in Nacogdoches after a brief illness on Thursday, August 21, 2003. He was born on April 23, 1914 in Grapeland, Texas to Calvin Tracy Skidmore and Olive Green Skidmore. Mr. Skidmore was retired from Diamond Shamrock after 27 years. His hobby was making violins. He made a total of 17 beautiful violins before los-

ing his vision.

He was preceded in death by one daughter, Sharon Rose Shirley; one brother, Curtis Emory Skidmore and two sisters, Cammie Elizabeth James and Mamie Grace Allen.

He is survived by his wife, Mada Lou Smith Skidmore; daughters, Virginia Ann McMurtray and husband, James of Nacogdoches, Sandra Jerris Holloway and husband, Rudy of LaPorte; eight grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; five great-great-grandchildren; two brothers, Charles Tracy and William Hoyt Skidmore both of Grapeland; two sisters, Mary Lucille Smith of Galveston and Ann Turner of Temple and numerous nieces and nephews.

Arrangements by Bailey & Foster, Grapeland.