

Grapeland
Messenger
July 10, 2000

Rites Held In Llano For Ray Skidmore

Funeral services for Mr. Melvin Ray Skidmore of Llano were held Tuesday, July 18, in the Waldrope-Hatfield-Hawthorne Funeral Home Chapel, Llano, with Rev. Rick Cundieff officiating. Burial followed in the Llano City Cemetery.

Nephews served as active pallbearers. Deacons of First Baptist Church, Llano, were named honorary pallbearers.

Melvin Ray Skidmore was born November 1, 1923, in Grapeland and was a son of the late Ed and Bennie (Williams) Skidmore. He died July 14, 2000, in Temple.

A retired public school teacher, Mr. Skidmore had resided in Llano since 1991, moving from Alamogordo, New Mexico. He received his Bachelor's and Master's degree from Hardin Simmons University in Abilene. Mr. Skidmore was Superintendent of Schools in Benjamin, Texas, from 1956 until 1962 when the family moved to Alamogordo, New Mexico, where he taught math and coached football and baseball. He received honors as "Teacher of the Year" and fellow teachers elected him president of the New Mexico Association of Classroom Teachers. He retired from teaching in 1987.

Mr. Skidmore was a member of the First Baptist Church in Llano and had been a deacon of the Baptist church since 1967. A World War II veteran, he served in the U. S. Army. Ray Skidmore and his wife, the former Helen Ruth Littlepage, were married September 8, 1945, in Houston.

Preceding him in death were his parents; three brothers, Leo Skidmore, Russell Skidmore and Harold Skidmore; and one sister, Pauline Skidmore.

Survivors include his wife, Helen Ruth Skidmore of Llano; two daughters, Sharon Ruth Skidmore of Llano and Billie Marie Skidmore of Temple; a sister, Edwina Banks of Grapeland; three brothers, Calvin Skidmore of Grapeland, Clyde Skidmore of California, John Skidmore of Houston; several nieces and nephews.

For those desiring, memorials may be made to First Baptist Church in Llano, Texas 78643.