

**ELBERT HERMAN
WILSON**

Elbert Herman Wilson, age 86, passed away Oct. 22, 1999, in Crockett. Mr. Wilson was born April 3, 1913, in the Midway

community of Polk County, to Edgar Vernon and Ida Louanna Matthews Wilson. He grew up in Livingston, graduating as Salutatorian from Livingston High School in 1931. He graduated from the Automotive and Electrical School in Cleveland, Oh. and returned to Livingston to work.

He married Bettie Rowena Haynes on June 30, 1934. He began his work career in automotive mechanic and then did mechanical work in core-drilling operations, traveling from Kansas to South Texas.

In 1940, he moved to Baytown where he joined the Humble Oil and Refining Co. He worked as a machinist and, during World War II, was in the guard force at the Baytown Ordnance Works, under the direction of the FBI. After the war, he returned to automotive mechanic as service manager for dealerships in Baytown. In 1952, he and his wife opened the Baytown Paint and Supply store, which they operated until their retirement 20 years later.

Soon after, he started another business, Wilson Compressor Service, which he operated until 1982, when he retired again. He was an early member of the Goose Creek Lions Club, a member of the First Baptist Church of Goose Creek, later Memorial Baptist Church. He was a skilled mechanic and an avid outdoorsman, hunter and fisherman. In his last years, he was the faithful caretaker of his wife during her long illness.

Mr. Wilson was preceded in death by an infant brother Neli Flynn.

Survivors include wife Rowena Haynes Wilson; daughter Bettie Marie Sarver and husband George of Crockett; grandchildren George L. Sarver, III and wife Laura of Sunnyvale, Ca., Ronald W. Sarver and wife Teri of Tyler, Kimberly M. Sarver of Baytown, Pamela J. Barrett and husband Richard of Raleigh, NC; two great-grandchildren Stephen and David Sarver of Sunnyvale, Ca.

Funeral services were held Monday Oct. 25, at 2 p.m. with the Rev. Jim Tom Ainsworth officiating. Interment followed at Midway Cemetery in Polk County.