

George F. Watford
Apr 7 1921 - Sep 9, 1994
AAFA# 0206

GEORGE F. WATFORD

AAFA #206

Sent by D.L. Alford, Jr., AAFA #054

George Watford's paternal grandmother was Margaret T. Alford6 Watford (Richard5, Halcut4 Julius C.3, Lodwick2, James1

HOUSTON CHRONICLE

Houston, TX-Mon., 12 Sept 1994

George F. Watford, of Houston, Texas, born on April 7, 1921 in Colorado City, Texas, passed away Friday, September 9, 1994. Preceded in death by his parents, Hardy Harvey Watford and Ruby Franklin Watford, and by Joseph F. Zemlick. Mr. Watford is survived by his loving wife, Joan Marie Watford, and her mother, Mrs. Joseph F. Zemlick; sisters Margaret Bass and her husband, Jack, Rebecca Yarbrough and her husband, Dan. He is also survived by all his children: Dawn Youdan, George Hardy Watford and his wife, Karen, Lisbeth J. Grundy and her husband, Michael, Randy W. Tonking and his wife, Anita, Jenny Watford Golf and her husband Michael, and Joseph Franklin Watford and his wife, Meridith, and the following grandchildren:

Matthew and Jacob Watford, Blaine and Reid Tonking, Gregory and Rachel Golf, Jonathan, Tara, Kerri, and Maggie Watford, and Laura and Terry Youdan. Mr Watford was honored as a Distinguished Engineer of Texas Tech University in 1986. He was a charter member of the Academy of Petroleum Engineers, a member of the Houston Petroleum Club, the Houston Geological Society, the APPG, TIPRO, the Heritage Club, Lakeside Country Club and an active supporter of the Arts. Reared on a farm in West Texas, the son of school teachers, George went from CCC Camp to graduate from Texas Tech with a degree in Petroleum Engineering following a tour of duty in World War II. As 1st Lieutenant bombardier flying over 35 combat missions he earned seven air medals and three battle stars with the 379th Group and 526th Squadron of the 8th Air Force. He began his oil and gas career in 1948 with Stanolind Oil and Gas in San Antonio. He quickly rose to become their youngest District Geologist located in Houston. In 1958 he began practicing as an independent geologist where he struggled to survive through the tough 1960's.

Down, but not out, he joined Prairie Producing Company in 1966 as Manager of Production. In 1968 he became President and CEO of Prairie. During 15 years of his leadership, the company grew from two employees to a listing on the New York Stock Exchange living under the motto "If it makes sense, Do It Now." He will be forever remembered as a loving husband, father, and grandfather and as a constant reminder of the power of the human spirit. Friends may call at Geo. H. Lewis & Sons, 1010 Bering Drive after 12:00 Noon Monday where the family will be present from 7:00 until 9:00 p.m. to receive friends. Funeral services will be held at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, September 13, 1994 at the Memorial Drive United Methodist Church, 12955 Memorial Drive with Dr. H. Eugene Cragg, officiating. Interment to follow at Memorial Oaks Cemetery. Serving as pallbearers will be: Gordon Hinz, Bill Patillo, John Cabaniss, J. Don McClelland, Story Sloane, Stan Swenson, Rook Edwards, Tom Minor and Keith Chandler. The family requests that any memorials be made to a charity of your choice.



HOUSTON CHRONICLE
SAT SEPT 9, 1994

In Memory of a Special Friend

GEORGE F. WATFORD

Apr. 7, 1921 - Sept. 9, 1994

I feel a definite need to acknowledge your passing one year ago today. You are sorely missed by caring friends you left behind. You impacted the lives of so many who now remember you fondly, and...character that you were...with a smile. At our August Prairie reunion the love for our past "leader" was so evident. We've all been enriched by having known you, with your wonderful sense of humor, your integrity, and your generosity. Were Don still here, he too would join in that sentiment, as have many of our friends who still keep in touch. Our "Mutual Admiration Society" lasted many years and I treasure the fact that we both had expressed: "I have no dearer friend on Earth."

In loving memory, Dee Wilson.

George F. Watford 0206
b. Apr 7 1921 & d. Sep 9 1994
Lived in Houston, TX
Family HAL788GA/JAM687VA
Attended 0 meeting(s).