



Bryan Blackburn,

April 25, 1936 - August 16, 2011

Services for Bryan (Lawton) Blackburn, Jr. (75) of Tyler, Texas, will be held on August 20th at 11:00 am at Trinity Fellowship Church, Tyler Texas with Pastor Kerry Kirkwood officiating. Visitation will be from 6-8pm Thursday, August 18th at Stewart Family Funeral Home, Tyler Texas. Mr. Blackburn was at his home in Tyler when he passed away on August 16, 2011. Lawton was born April 25th 1936 in Dallas Texas to Bryan and Mary Blackburn and was the fifth generation son of Texas farmers and ranchers. He grew up in Texas, living in Dallas, Lubbock, San Antonio and Granbury. He graduated from Granbury High School in May 1954, earned a BS in mathematics from Baylor University in 1958, and his MS in Computer Science from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in 1977. In 1959 he was drafted by the US Army and served at the Defense Atomic Support Agency (DASA) in the Pentagon, Washington DC, where he was trained in computer programming. After his discharge from the Army in 1961, Lawton was hired as a civilian mathematician at DASA. In 1963 he was transferred to the Defense Communications Agency (DCA), which became Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA). Later, in 1967, he became the Chief of the Software Systems Division supporting all of the Defense Systems Support Organization's (DSSO) mainframes. By 1978 he was responsible for all operation systems software in DSSO. Throughout his 34 years of service Lawton received countless Sustained Superior Service Awards and in 1982 he received the DCA Sustained Meritorious Service Award. Lawton was a member of the

Gideon's International (West Camp), and of Trinity Fellowship Church where he served as an elder. He enjoyed donuts, coffee, eating out, train rides, singing, and spending time with friends and loved ones. In 1961 Lawton married Grace Whipple and this past February they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. In addition to his wife Grace, he is survived by two sisters, Helon Razniak and Carolyn Sue Badgett, five children and eighteen grandchildren: Daniel (son) and Nancy Blackburn, Jordan and Austin, Paul (son) and Camilla Blackburn, Noah, Jacob, Christy, Rose, John, Samuel and Boaz, Jim and Valerie Hahn (daughter), Joshua, Jaclyn, Luke, Judah and Abigail, Jim and Colleen Herring (daughter), Megan, Chrislyn, Joel and Nathan, and Cynthia Blackburn (daughter). For more information or to express condolences, visit www.stewartfamilyfuneral.com.

Tribute Wall

LD

“ Sue, Rusty, and Family,

So sorry to hear of your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Lezley Doogs - August 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MP

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Marcy & Eddie Payton - August 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM

EF

“ Rusty, Sue and Family, So sorry to hear of your loss. My thoughts and prayers go out to each of you.

Erica Fields - August 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM

WB

“ Lawton was a very wonderful man who always seem to put love,joy and peace in all kinds of situations good or bad,Also had a good word for the same.I have missed him since I had moved.I Know he is really belting a wonderful tune to the LORD JESUS now.

William Brown - August 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ I am so sorry for your loss. He was a good man.

Martha Clevenger - August 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AL

“ *Lawton was an extraordinary man and a dedicated Christian. His computer skills were unbelievable. He wrote the accounting program for Arlington Memorial Church in BASIC (as I remember it he did this while on a break from a conference or something - I could be wrong but it was effortless while very elegant). I did use his ideas for the accounting system used by Scripture Studies Inc. It was a great privilege to know Lawton Blackburn.*

Allan Lund - August 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ *Lawton was the type of Christian man that Scripture speaks of, and the type you are willing and desirous of introducing your own children to that they will want to imitate. Have known this man and his whole family for many years and feel my life has benefited from that experience, and he has left a wonderful family to carry on his traditions. While we sorrow, he is rejoicing!*

Clint Frank - August 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM

HM

“ *Grace and children, we love you. We all will miss our brother Lawton's physical presence every day and pray that the peace and comfort that comes only from God will keep our hearts and until we are reunited. You and the children are in our thoughts and prayers.*

Pat and Herb

Herb and Pat Mackey - August 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AB

“ *Lawton was an example and a source of encouragement to us during our years at Arlington Memorial Church. We remember our many times in the Blackburn house, enjoying a delightful meal and terrific conversation. Lawton exemplified Christian humility and kindness. We look forward to seeing him again in heaven.*

Andy and Ellie Bisulca - August 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PS

“ *So sorry to hear of Lawton's passing - but no doubt he is up there in Heaven making all the other saints smile! The first thing that comes to mind when thinking of him is the wonderful love he & Grace expressed - they were still like newlyweds - the sweetness of their love for one another was a joy to watch. This earth has lost a wonderful Christian man! So glad I had the previledge of knowing him!*

Peggy Martin Suggs - August 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM

EM

“*Lawton and Grace invited me into their home when I moved from Ohio to Virginia. From the moment I stepped into their home I realized I was in the presence of a spiritual leader, a man of God who walked in The Word leading his family in a Godly path. He was a great example to me and Cindy with his support of us and with his leadership at Arlington Memorial Church. It is sad to hear of his passing yet great to know he now knows the fullness of the Salvation Jesus Christ offers. There is rejoicing in heaven. "Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his faithful servants." Psalm 116:14-16*

His legacy continues with his family and with all of us he touched with his life.

Ed Montgomery

Ed and Cindy Montgomery - August 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JK

“*Dear Grace and Family,*

My parents and I send our sympathy and prayers to you during this difficult time. My mom remembers when Grace and Lawton were are my dad's church in DC, before they were married!

I also remember the good times we all had at AMC in Arlington, VA. Hold on to all of those wonderful family and friend memories.

*With love,
Howard, Eva, and Judy Kinsinger*

Revelation 21:3-5

Judy Kinsinger - August 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RR

“ I have been a long time friend of the family since the 1950s. My condolences to the Blackburn family for your loss, and especially for my Granbury school classmate Helon.

Ray Reed - August 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM

GS

“ Dear Sue and Helen,
While I did not have the blessing of knowing your brother, I have such fond memories of both of you and the many stories that we shared. Thank you for your blessed friendship and those good times in the country. My thoughts and prayers are with you at this time of loss.

Much love,
Glenda

Glenda Stewart - August 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ Bryan(nobody called him Lawton) was one of the finest men I have ever known and having him as a roomy at college for most of our four years there was a God sent blessing. No one will ever know the lengths I went to all those years in avoiding a weekend with him in Granbury fox hunting! What a pair we made; the city boy and the country kid. Another star shines brightly in God's Kingdom!

James R. Wisenbaker - August 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM