

Curtis Jefferson Crofton

February 12, 1935 - February 26, 2023

Tyler-A celebration of the life of Curtis Jefferson Crofton will be held on Monday, March 6, 2023 at 10 a.m. at Stewart Family Funeral Home. Interment will follow at Cathedral in the Pines Cemetery in Tyler.

Curtis was born in Plant City, Florida to Marie Anna Pearson and Charles Jefferson Crofton on February 12, 1935. He graduated from Hillsborough High School in Tampa, Florida. He earned a scholarship to play the tuba in the Tampa Symphonic Orchestra which allowed him to attend and graduate from the University of Tampa. While attending the University of Tampa, Curtis was president of the Baptist Student Union and president of the Youth Fellowship Department of the Tampa Bay Baptist Association in addition to other student activities. After graduation, he came to Texas to attend Southwestern Baptist Seminary graduating with a Bachelor of Divinity and two degrees in Master of Religious Education. After graduating from the seminary, Curtis served as senior pastor of churches in San Antonio, Hallettsville, Houston, Mt. Pleasant and Hideaway Lake. In retirement he served as interim pastor of seven different churches. Two exceptions to pastoring included one nine year period at Green Acres Baptist Church as Business Administrator and another nine year period as Regional Director for church staff retirement planning in states from Texas to Minnesota with GuideStone Financial Services in Dallas. Retirement brought Curtis and his wife, Ann, back to Tyler to fish, golf, garden, travel and enjoy lifelong friendships.

He was preceded in death by his parents and is survived by his loving family including his devoted wife of 42 years, Ann; daughter Krisha Banigan (Mark) of Burnet, son Jeff Crofton (Lisa) of Katy, daughter Andrea Riley (Steve) of Tyler, daughter Kay Cain (David) of Coppell, son James "Bo" Ward (Michelle) of Plano, twelve grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers will be grandsons, Tommy Banigan, Curtis Riley, Mason Cain, Austin Cain, Walker Cain and Nick Hardin.

Honorary pallbearers will be Jim Powell, Jeff Jones, Jim Wright, Wayne Shay, Percy Andrus, Roland Lane, Justin Boseman, Eddie Wyatt, and Enrique Ramirez.

If desired, memorials may be made to MissionDignity.org or Samaritan's Purse.

Cemetery Details

Cathedral in the Pines Cemetery

7825 South Broadway Avenue
Tyler, TX 75703

Previous Events

Service

MAR 6. 10:00 AM (CT)

Stewart Family Funeral Home
7525 Old Jacksonville Hwy
Tyler, TX 75703
(903) 581-2008

Tribute Wall



“ Stewart Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Curtis Jefferson Crofton



Stewart Family Funeral Home - March 02, 2023 at 05:20 PM

SB

“ Sharyn, Bruce, Pat and Brad purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Curtis Jefferson Crofton.



Sharyn, Bruce, Pat and Brad - March 05, 2023 at 09:26 AM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Curtis Jefferson Crofton.



March 04, 2023 at 11:43 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Curtis Jefferson Crofton.*



March 04, 2023 at 11:32 AM



“ *Curtis was a dear friend. Enjoyed him so much while he was at GABC. Played golf with him several times. Also fished with him. He loved the outdoors. And he caught a huge bass once while we were fishing at Lake Fork. Of course it was much larger when we got back to Tyler! He will be missed.*
Dale Eppler

Dale Eppler - March 04, 2023 at 11:25 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Curtis Jefferson Crofton.*



March 04, 2023 at 09:32 AM

BW

“ 13 files added to the album *Memories with Dad*



bo ward - March 04, 2023 at 09:18 AM



“ *Vivid Recollections* was purchased for the family of Curtis Jefferson Crofton.



March 03, 2023 at 07:45 PM

BS

“ *Brother Crofton was an amazing man, preacher. I was in junior high when I heard him preach. That tall, slender form, slicker back hair, hovering over that pulpit at University Park Baptist saying, "In the Greek..."- and I was forever moved. I became a pastor, in a different denomination, in large part because of Brother Crofton- and I studied Hebrew and Greek--and I say, "In the Greek..." as my personal tribute to an absolutely fine man. Over the years I've meant to find Bro. Crofton and reach out to him, and I'm very sorry that I didn't. He touched my life forever.*

Bill Swantner - March 03, 2023 at 07:11 PM

MM

Pastor Crofton baptized me and I always remember how kind and compassionate he was. My sister, Valerie, and Andrea played together in our homes. Jeff and I were in the same SS class. I am praying for this family.

Melody Martin Marrow - March 03, 2023 at 10:36 PM

CR

Dear Ann,

I 'm so sorry to see that Curtis has gone on ahead of you. God bless you in your sorrow. While I didn't really know him, I've always thought you seem so well loved: calm and definitely someone's prize. Praise God for these 40 odd years you had one another.

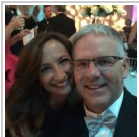
Carol Ann Rowland - March 03, 2023 at 11:59 PM

JC

“ Janet and A.T. Cain purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Curtis Jefferson Crofton.



Janet and A.T. Cain - March 03, 2023 at 02:22 PM



“ 18 files added to the album Memories with Dad



Andrea Riley - March 03, 2023 at 02:17 PM



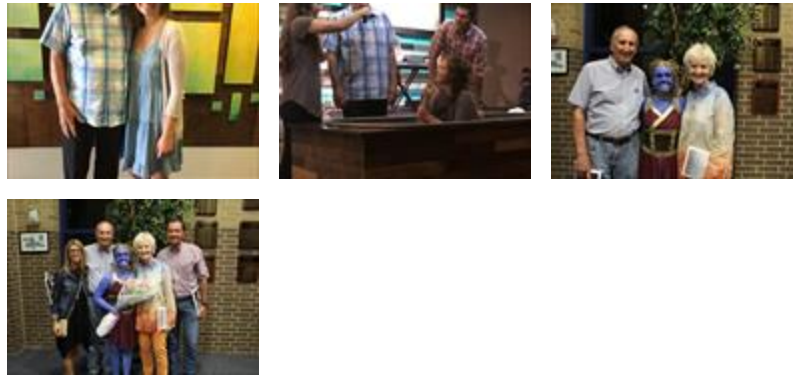
“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Curtis Jefferson Crofton.*



March 03, 2023 at 02:11 PM



“ *4 files added to the album Memories with Dad*



Jeff Crofton - March 02, 2023 at 10:37 PM



“ *Curtis was such a dear friend. He preached at the revival services at Calvary Baptist Church in Rosenberg when I was pastor there. Later he helped me with retirement funds at the old Southern Baptist Annuity Board. Our retirement paths often crossed at Fresh in Tyler. A faithful servant, called of God to preach the Word, and now called Home by his Heavenly Father. Thanks, Curtis. Bill Ballou, Brandon, Mississippi*

Bill Ballou - March 02, 2023 at 08:14 PM

JC

“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



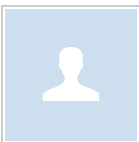
Jeff Crofton - March 02, 2023 at 07:47 PM



“ 91 files added to the album Life Tributes



Stewart Family Funeral Home - March 02, 2023 at 05:16 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Curtis Jefferson Crofton.*



March 02, 2023 at 12:14 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Curtis Jefferson Crofton.*



March 01, 2023 at 06:40 PM



“ *Beacon Pointe Family purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of Curtis Jefferson Crofton.*



Beacon Pointe Family - March 01, 2023 at 05:01 PM



“ *Curtis was a faithful servant of God. I always admired him. He always encouraged me when I was his pastor - he was always advising me to slow down and spend more time with my family. That was priceless advice! Pastor David Dykes*

David Dykes - March 01, 2023 at 09:34 AM

JC

“ 8 files added to the album *Memories with Dad*



Jeff Crofton - February 28, 2023 at 10:19 PM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes* was purchased for the family of Curtis Jefferson Crofton.



February 28, 2023 at 12:46 PM

GC

“ *When I was a teenager Curtis came to our church, First Baptist of Dade City, FL as a summer youth ministry intern. As I sort of figure it, Curtis would have been my Daddy's (Hubert Pittman) first cousin and my second cousin.*

What a testimony to be a pastor for many years and touch so many lives.

Gail Pittman Coulter

Gail Coulter - February 28, 2023 at 12:20 PM

RB

Curtis was a great pastor, preacher, and friend. He came to pastor Bethel Baptist Church in Houston during my first year of college. He shared his wisdom with me, for which I will be forever grateful. He was a great inspiration to me.

Randall Bush - March 03, 2023 at 07:51 PM