



Denman Bryant Langford

May 10, 1931 - November 30, 2013

On November 30, 2013, Denman Bryant Langford, one of the Lord's remarkable servants, age 82, was called home after a courageous and lengthy battle with his health. Known as Bryant, he was born in Whitehouse, Texas, on May 10, 1931, to Mattie Mayo Bryant and Allen Senter Langford. Bryant grew up in Whitehouse, attended Whitehouse High School, and then graduated from Tyler High School in 1948. He attended East Texas State University, earning a B.S. degree, and an M.S. in Education from Stephen F. Austin State University.

Bryant and his wife, Ann, were married August 26, 1955, and shared 58 years of marriage together.

Bryant worked in the T.I.S.D. for seven years. In 1960 he established his business, Langford Builders Supply. He sold this business 19 years later and opened Langford Wholesale Lumber Inc. In his more than 50 years in the lumber industry, Bryant worked with W.I.S.D. Co-op, hiring many young students who were starting work for their first time. He took a sabbatical from the lumber business in 2000, reopening again in 2008.

Bryant put his faith in the Lord Jesus Christ when he was a young man. He served as a deacon and Sunday school teacher for over 50 years. Throughout his life, Bryant gave to others, whether it was for family or someone who needed friendship or help. He loved the Lord and tried never to miss an opportunity to tell others about Him. He was a member of the congregation of Mount Carmel Baptist Church and a follower of the Baptist faith throughout his

life.

The song “Bridge Over Troubled Waters” always spoke to him in a positive way because Christ was his “bridge”.

Bryant loved sports! He lettered in basketball and pitched in minor league baseball for three years before being drafted into the Army from 1953-55. He loved watching his favorite baseball team, the St. Louis Cardinals. He also loved to fish and to hunt, especially quail.

Bryant was a 32nd Degree Mason with a life membership in the Whitehouse Lodge. He was involved in the organization of the First National Bank of Whitehouse and served on the board of directors at First National Bank, Austin Bank, Cherokee County Electric Co-op and Stewart Family Funeral Home. In 2009, Whitehouse honored he and his wife by naming them Mr. and Mrs. Yesteryear.

Bryant courageously fought many health problems over the last twenty-three years. He survived two heart bypass surgeries and in 1991 received a heart transplant, giving him a second chance at life. He enjoyed good health and a full life for many years, after which came the challenge of three cancer surgeries. He was again blessed and experienced a renewed compassion for his fellow man, sharing their cares and concerns. He supported his church and his favorite charities, St. Jude’s Children Hospital and Hospice of East Texas. He often said he could not give anything away because God always returned it to him, with a bonus.

Bryant is preceded in death by his parents, a sister, Virginia Turman, and two brothers, Joe and Allen Langford.

He is survived by his wife, Ann Langford of Whitehouse; his sister, Eleanor Love Langford Luther of Tyler; his children, Dr. Ginga Ann Langford of Dallas, Dr. Teri Elizabeth Langford and her partner Nancy Keeney of Carrollton, David Bryant Langford of Dallas, Tulisha Louise Langford Buchanan and her husband, Dr. Sam Buchanan of Fort Worth; and two grandchildren, Stephen Bryant Buchanan of Auburn, Alabama; and Lillian Ann Elyse Buchanan of Fort Worth.

He also is survived by his nephews, Paul Manuel Turman II, Will Allen Turman, David Sidney Turman and William Ray Luther, all of Tyler; and his nieces, Suzanne Langford Cowper of Austin; Janet Clare Langford DiOrion of Pine Hill, New Jersey; and Susan Love Luther of Fort Worth.

Funeral services will be at 2:00 PM on Tuesday, December 3, 2013 at Stewart Family Funeral Home chapel with Rev. Benny Portwood and Rev. Sherman Mayfield officiating. Burial will follow at Whitehouse Cemetery. The family will receive friends at the funeral home on Monday, December 2, 2013 from 6:00-8:00 P.M.

Serving as pallbearers will be Paul Turman, Will Turman, David Turman, Bill Luther, John Williams, Doug Dotson, Melvin Tomlin and Mike Glover.

Honorary pallbearers are Kenneth Stanley, Royce Cheatham, Jose Carrillo, Jessie Rodriguez, Morris Gary, Steve Jackson, Charlie Jones, Bobby Smith, Melvin Scroggins, R. V. Rogers, Terry Hanks, Bobby Coker. Jimmy Murphy and Rick Taylor

Bryant asked to convey, "My unending appreciation to Betty and Kenneth Stanley for always being there for me during good times and in times of crisis." He also wished to recognize all those who influenced his life including his mother and father, Louise and Edgar Morrow, Dolly Morrow, Douglas Brown, James Lilly, George "Snookie" Torbet, Bill Kee, Glendal Pike, Jo Nell Samford, Dr. Joe Jones, R.V. Rogers and all his many friends.

Mr. Langford's family would like thank those caregivers who gave him such loving care in the last years of his life, Eulanda Barron, Katrina Smith, Theresa Rains, and Kay Brown.

Memorials in honor of Bryant Langford may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 262 Danny Thomas Place, Memphis, TN 38105 or Mt. Carmel Baptist Church Building Fund, 10519 FM 344 E, Whitehouse, 75791.

Cemetery Details

Whitehouse Cemetery

401 Memory Lane
Whitehouse, TX 75791

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 2. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

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

Service

DEC 3. 2:00 PM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall

CF

“ *Mr. Langford is an inspiration to us all. He fought many health battles and never let them get in the way of living his life and loving his family. Mr. Langford was a generous man, he and his wife Ann opened their home to my family with warmth and humor. My sympathy to the Langford family. Bryant may the light of the Lord light your way in the arms of Angels.*

Sincerely,

Cindi Keeney Fletcher

Cindi Fletcher - December 03, 2013 at 06:11 PM

MC

“ *Mr. Langford always had a twinkle in his eye. Our Heavenly Father will surely enjoy having him there. My deepest sympathy for your families loss. I want to thank you for the honor and privilege of caring for him. With love, sincerely, Mari (his nurse)*

Mari Castaneda - December 03, 2013 at 01:51 PM

LR

“ *Bryant Langford was as much a part of Whitehouse memories as Br. Daves on the corner or Major's store. I taught many senior boys who got their start working for Langford Lumber Company. He will be remembered as a man who loved and served God, his community and loved his family. May God wrap his arms around you in the days to come.*

Linda Rash

Linda Rash - December 03, 2013 at 09:22 AM

MD

“ To Ginga , a loyal member of the Greater Golden Gate Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas.
I send my condolences to you and your family. I pray that the Lord and the comfort of friends and acquaintances will be with you.

Mrs. Betty Davis

Mrs. Betty Davis - December 02, 2013 at 02:24 PM

LB

“ Ann, I was sorry to learn of your loss. Please accept my condolences for you and your family. When I was in the first grade at Gary Elementary School in Tyler, Bryant was our PE teacher. That was a long time ago! I was always kind of afraid of him then. I'm glad I got to see him the past few years since I have been back in Whitehouse. May God bless you during this time of sorrow.



Leo "Brad" Bradshaw

Leo Bradshaw - December 02, 2013 at 01:50 PM

SH

“ Mr. Bryant and Miss Ann were friends of my parents and I grew up next door to the family in Whitehouse and then in Walnut Grove. I have many fond memories of him and the rest of the family. Our thoughts and prayers are with Miss Ann, Ginga, Teri, David, Tulisha and his extended family during this difficult time.

Ronnie and Susie (Brandt) Holley

Susie Holley - December 02, 2013 at 10:25 AM



“ *Heavenly Grace Spray was purchased for the family of Denman Bryant Langford.*



December 02, 2013 at 10:15 AM



“ *This was a wonderful man who will be greatly missed. I had the honor of serving on the Cherokee County Electric Coop board with Bryant for several years. I have always admired his walk with The Lord. He brought much wisdom and insight to our board meetings.*

Keith Youngblood - December 02, 2013 at 09:57 AM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Denman Bryant Langford.*



December 02, 2013 at 09:37 AM



“ *I am so sorry to hear of this loss. Bryant was a long time friend of ours. I am away on a trip or I would be attending this funeral. Just know that my prayers will be with you Ann during this time in your life. May God give all of you peace and comfort during your grief.*

joyce stanley - December 02, 2013 at 07:17 AM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Denman Bryant Langford.*



December 02, 2013 at 06:34 AM



“ *Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of Denman Bryant Langford.*



December 01, 2013 at 09:39 PM



“ *So sorry to hear about Bryant. I was wondering about him the other day. When I was in the 8th grade he used to referee our girls basketball games here in Whitehouse. He was a super nice man. I have known him all of my life and he knew my Dad and later my husband, Ken. Even my kids knew some of his kids. He was good for Whitehouse. To his family I send good thoughts and prayers.
June (Dudley) and Ken Nelson*

June Nelson - December 01, 2013 at 05:17 PM



“ *I remember Coach Langford well. Sorry to read of his passing.*

Stanley Waghalter - December 01, 2013 at 01:49 PM

RF

God called home a great man. He will be missed. My thoughts and prayers go out to the family.

Ronny Fite

Ronny Fite - December 01, 2013 at 08:41 PM