



Larry Whitaker

December 23, 1935 - August 20, 2019

A celebration of life for Robert Larry Whitaker, 83, of Tyler will be held on Saturday, August 24, 2019 at 10:30 a.m. at Pollard United Methodist Church in Tyler. Rev. Richard Luna and H.O. Abbott will be officiating the service.

Larry was born December 23, 1935 in Oak Grove, LA and passed away on August 20, 2019. Larry is preceded in death by his parents Robert and Mildred Whitaker and his beloved wife of 56 years, Betty Kelly Whitaker.

Larry was a graduate of Louisiana Tech University with a degree in mathematics. His career in data processing and computers spanned four decades, culminating in his retirement from Tyler Independent School District as Director of Management Services. One of his many career achievements includes writing the programs for the first internal memory computer outside of the Atomic Energy Commission.

Larry had many interests including golf and horses. Larry was a member of Pollard United Methodist Church and The Builders Sunday School class for 53 years.

His greatest joy was his family. He is survived by his loving wife, Kay Hardin. The family he was so proud of includes daughter Kathy Kapka and husband Robert of Whitehouse; daughter Julie McLean and husband Ron of Tyler; son

Jeffrey D. Whitaker and wife Natalie of El Paso. He was known as Paw Paw and adored by his eight grandchildren: Taylor Hill, Kevin Kapka, Elliott Hill, Daniel Whitaker, Ali Whitaker, Sabine Whitaker, Craig McLean and Mark McLean. Larry was also loved by Kay's children Misty and Greg Carroll of Lake Charles, LA and their son Sean Carroll and daughter Amber and Brandon Myers; Kelly McBride of Austin and her daughter Jordan McBride; Chris and Debby Hardin of Tyler and their sons Curtis Hardin, Jay Hardin and Chase Hardin. Larry was very blessed with seven great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers will be his six grandsons. Honorary Pallbearers will be Jim Daughtry, Clyde Stewart, Titus Jones, Ken Powell, Frank Myrick, Craig Poole, Rick Maxey, Jim O'Toole, Mike Wyatt, Bob Gentry and the Builders Sunday School Class.

If desired, memorials may be made to Pollard United Methodist Church Memorial Fund, 3030 Copeland Road, Tyler, TX 75701; St. Jude Children's Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN; or St. Paul's Children Foundation, 1358 East Richards St., Tyler, TX 75710.

Cemetery Details

Private Burial

Previous Events

Memorial Service

AUG **24**. 10:30 AM (CT)

Pollard United Methodist Church
3030 Copeland Rd.
Tyler, TX 75701

Tribute Wall



“ Stewart Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Larry Whitaker



Stewart Family Funeral Home - August 22, 2019 at 02:30 PM

RB

“ Sincere condolences. Prayerfully. Blessings

R Kaye Berry - August 24, 2019 at 10:50 AM

KB

“ Larry served as my boss in the mid-90's and we shared many good times. I owe him so much, from my first employment opportunity in Tyler to the things I learned working with him, to pulling me into the enjoyment of golf.

He was a constant source of energy and ideas, good stories from growing up in Oak Grove, or off the wall observations of the silliness of life. Of all the people I have ever known, he was among the dearest to me.

My condolences to his family, especially Kathy, Julie and Danny. My God bless you all with peace and love.

Kevin Bogue

Kevin Bogue - August 23, 2019 at 02:32 PM

DR

“ Kay, Kathy, Julie, and Jeffrey I knew Larry for a brief time through the coffee group we shared on Wednesdays. He was a delight to know, and told wonderful stories. I grew to admire him and was so sorry to hear of his passing. God bless all of you and I pray the Lord Jesus will comfort you in this time.

Dean Reding

Dean REding - August 23, 2019 at 11:10 AM

JO

“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*



John Orbaugh - August 23, 2019 at 10:02 AM

RW

“ Risa and Brad Ware purchased the *Basket Full of Wishes* for the family of Larry Whitaker.



Risa and Brad Ware - August 22, 2019 at 05:41 PM



“ 63 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Stewart Family Funeral Home - August 22, 2019 at 02:26 PM



“ Vickie Bolden Greer lit a candle in memory of Larry Whitaker



Vickie Bolden Greer - August 21, 2019 at 03:58 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Larry Whitaker.



August 21, 2019 at 11:31 AM