



Bobby Bates Duke

October 14, 1933 - September 11, 2014

Bobby Bates Duke entered into his eternal rest in Lord on Thursday, September 11, 2014 at home. He was under the care of Home Hospice.

Bobby was born in Desdemona, TX on October 14, 1933 to the late, Rufus and Marie Duke. He was the youngest of four children raised during the Great Depression. Hunting, fishing and gardening were activities that were learned early, and enjoyed all of his life.

According to Bobby, the only reason he graduated from Desdemona High School in 1951 was because of Basketball. It was a lifelong passion for him.

Bobby then went to work in the oilfield, working from Montana to Midland. When he went to apply for a passport to go to Venezuela (oil job), he was told that Uncle Sam was calling him to go into the Army. He would join Eisenhower's Famous 4th Infantry Division, and be shipped to Germany for eighteen months.

After the army, he came back to Odessa, met and married Ada on September 15, 1957. Dad and Mom were just short of their 57th anniversary.

In the seventies, he moved to Midland, and out to the country, where he was able to garden (anywhere from three to thirteen acres, depending on the rain)

to his heart's content. He shared his produce with family and friends far and wide, as he did with his hunting and fishing. He gave willingly and freely to others.

In the past five years he discovered the Farmer's Market in Midland. He loved to sell his produce there, and even started making and selling his peanut/pecan brittle there just in time for the holidays.

Bobby Bates was a kind and generous man who will be greatly missed by all who knew him. He is survived by his wife, Ada Duke, two daughters, Patty Duke and Jennifer Linton of Midland, two grandsons, and four great grandchildren.

A Memorial Service will be held at the Midland Seventh-Day Adventist Church on Sunday, the 28th of September at 3:00pm. A reception will follow. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to your favorite charity.