



David William Bennett

NOV 27, 1936 - MAR 7, 2022



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Rader
FUNERAL HOMES
OF LONGVIEW AND HENDERSON

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David William Bennett

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David William Bennett, beloved husband, father, friend and Pepaw, passed away peacefully at home

Monday, March 7, 2022. His battle with dementia finally over, David is singing in heaven and has found his home.

Born November 27, 1936 in San Antonio, Tx to George and Edith Bennett, David grew up in

Arlington, Tx before moving to Jacksonville and graduating Jacksonville HS in 1955.

He went on to

graduate from The University of Texas at Austin with a degree in chemical engineering in 1960 and

has never ceased to love and support all things Longhorn and burnt orange. Upon graduation, David

accepted what would be his 38-year career job with Eastman Kodak at the Texas Eastman site in

Longview working primarily in the plastics area, retiring in 1998.

It was in Jacksonville where David met his wife of 64 years, Billie Joyce Maness. The high school

sweethearts married September 1, 1957 and moved to Austin where both attended and graduated

from UT Austin, then moved to Longview. They had two daughters, Julie and Renee, that were raised

in White Oak, Tx in the house designed primarily by David himself.

David never met a stranger. He loved singing, volunteering, photography and spending time with his

grandkids. Music and singing were his lifelong love, from elementary choir to



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SPEBSQSA Barbershop

chorus and quartet singing to all aspects of singing and leading church music. As he struggled some

days with dementia, it was his daughter Julie's daily hymn and prayer text that could bring him back

and have him singing his favorite hymns. David has always been a part of the Methodist church,

calling Greggton United Methodist Church his church home for over 40 years. David served many

years on the White Oak School Board and volunteered with Gregg County Historical Museum,

Preservation Longview and Longview Police Department. His love of photography led him to

volunteer his time photographing numerous church and civic events, as well as to enter annual

submissions to Texas Bank and Trust photo contests. But it was spending time with his grandchildren

that he would treasure the most. From the swimming pool, card games and kitchen messes, to

science experiments and school projects, Pepaw was prepped and ready.

David is survived by his loving wife of 64 years, Billie Joyce Maness Bennett; daughter and son in law

Julie and Randall Smith; daughter Renee Bennett Pullen; grandchildren: Paige Pullen (Tyler)

Simmons, Erin Smith (Isaiah) McNeil, Shannon Smith (Jesus Juarez) and Randall Reed (Anna)

Pullen; 5 great grandchildren; sisters: Nancy (Ed) Rawlings and Linda

Laughinghouse; sister in law

Connie Cobb; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and dear friends. David was preceded in

death by his parents, George and Edith Bennett and his brother, John Bennett.



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A special thank you to his caregivers Anna Karpova, Shirley Nelson and Diana Martinez. You will forever be family.

The family appreciates that memorials be given to Greggton United Methodist Church and the Gregg County Historical Museum.

Funeral services will be 2 pm Saturday, March 12, 2022 at Greggton United Methodist Church with visitation preceding the service from 1-2pm. Burial will follow at Rosewood Park. Online condolences can be left at <https://www.raderfh.com>.



Events

David William Bennett

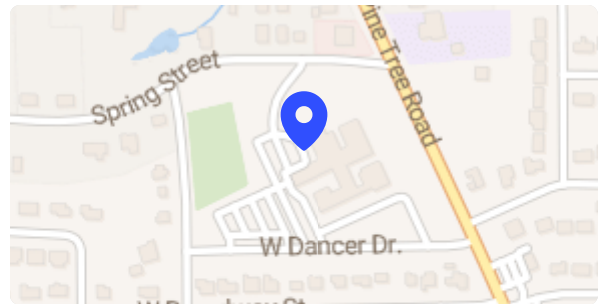
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Visitation

Saturday, March 12, 2022

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM CT

Greggton United Methodist Church
1101 Pine Tree Rd., Longview TX

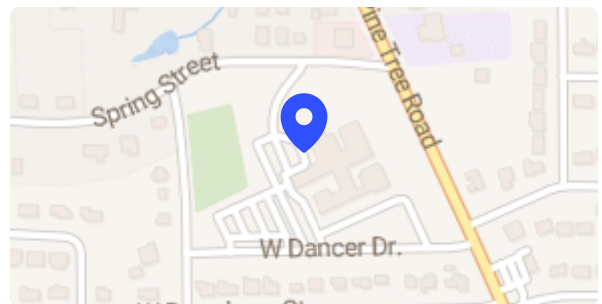


Funeral Service

Saturday, March 12, 2022

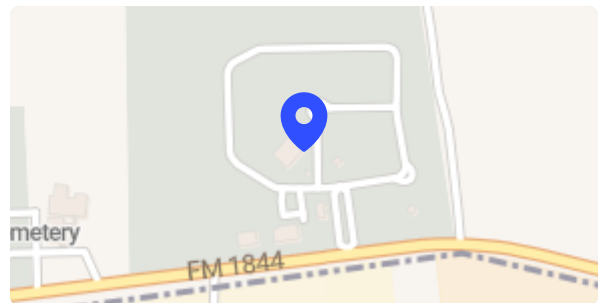
2:00 PM CT

Greggton United Methodist Church
1101 Pine Tree Rd., Longview TX



Cemetery Details

Rosewood Park
1884 FM 1844, Longview TX 75605





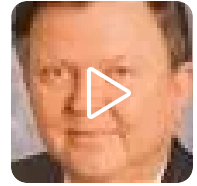
Tribute Wall

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Rader Funeral Home shared a **Video**.



March 11 at 9:01 AM



Yvette Penny Dauster March 12 at 7:37 PM

Dear all, My family, Jana, Stacy and Yvette, have you in our thoughts and prayers and hope you can find comfort. I remember many years of his service to the kids and the church and what a wonderful legacy he left for you. He was such a kind man and I know he will be truly missed. Love, Yvette and family

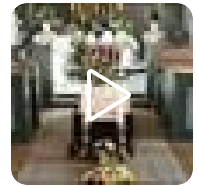


Travis Arden March 12 at 2:39 AM

Beautiful memories!



Rader Funeral Home shared a **Webcast Video**.



March 12 at 6:27 AM



Robert F Brown posted:

Dear Billie and all the family, My thoughts and prayers are with you today thinking of the many past kindnesses you and Dave extended to me {Bob Brown and Martha and Sherry} during our loss of Marcella all those years ago in 1976. Hope she and Dave are greeting each other just now. Dave truly helped make the world a better place. May God bless you and all your family. With my love, Bob

March 12 at 8:16 AM



Betty Everitt posted:

Because Billie, Connie, and I grew up thinking we were cousins, David became a cousin, too. The memories in recent years, enjoying favorite restaurants, Longhorn games, and remembering the good times of the past, will be forever treasured. David made so many lives so much better. I hope that somehow he knows that. Yet another reminder that people are only on loan to us. We will always remember this truly good man. "cousin" Betty, La Place, Louisiana

March 12 at 2:46 AM



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Anonymous sent a Divine Peace Bouquet to the Bennett family.



March 11 at 2:12 PM



Dick Hudson posted:

Julie, you have a lot of good memories to comfort you in your grief time. Grief is natural and healing. Memories are eternal. Concentrate on the eternal. My mom had an unusual request. She asked that we say her name aloud on her birthday and she would hear it. We do that, and it is comforting. Dick Hudson

March 10 at 10:21 AM



Diane Johnson lit a candle in honor of David.

I remember David Bennett when my brother, William Villyard, sang with him in the Barbershop group I believe in the 70's and 80's also with Fletcher Wright and Don Florey. He was always friendly and happy and I remember how happy William was to be a vital part of them. Our family sadly lost William approximately 5 weeks ago after his lengthy illness. What I would give to be able to hear them and that Group sing just one more time. My prayers are with his family and all his friends who loved him. Diane Villyard Johnson



March 10 at 8:57 AM



Fletcher Wright sent a Full Of Love Bouquet to the Bennett family.



March 9 at 6:52 PM



Fletcher Wright posted:

Dave and I sang in a barbershop quartet called the Three Sharps and A Flat with Murray Williams and Don Griffen. We were the quartet in The Music Man musical that was put on by the Lions Club sometime in the 1960's. He was a very good tenor and good tenors we're hard to find. Worked with him for many years at Eastman and we were good friends. My thoughts and prayers go out to Billie and their family.

March 9 at 6:41 PM



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AH

Al Hearne posted:

I attended high school with David and counted him among my best friends, I am sorry that I did not keep in touch with him even though I thought of him often. Just one of my many regrets in life. I will hold his family in my heart during this sad time. A. T. Hearne

March 9 at 7:28 AM

LB

Laura Boultinghouse posted:

Lots of happy memories of Dave & Billie at Church functions!.

March 9 at 6:47 AM



Anonymous sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Bennett family.



March 9 at 1:24 AM

WM

William Martin lit a candle in honor of David.



March 7 at 10:24 PM

GP

Glenn Phillips posted:

David and Billie Bennett helped Frances and I with our son's (Brad) 2nd birthday party at Eastman Park on Oct 5, 1961 - and many other great memories of a very good man. Glenn Phillips

March 7 at 5:21 PM



Media

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Yvette Penny Dauster March 12 at 7:37 PM

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March 12 at 6:27 AM





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring David by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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