



Ernie Cates, Sr.

December 11, 1930 - January 22, 2009

Ernie Cates, Sr. was born December 11, 1930 in Cushing, Oklahoma to Fred and Myrtle Bess (Morlen) Cates. He was one of twelve children. On October 16, 1952 he and Mardell Bell were married in Bentonville, Arkansas. They have lived in Rockdale 54 years. Ernie worked as an electrician with IGC then with TXU until his retirement. He was a member of Rockdale Christian Fellowship. Ernie passed away Thursday morning, January 22, 2009 in the Scott & White Hospital in Temple reaching the age of 78. He was preceded in death by his parents. Four brothers, Elvie, Elzie, Carlos and Glenn Cates. Three sisters, Opal and Azilee Cates and Ada Ahner. Surviving; His wife, Mardell Cates of Rockdale. Daughter, Debra Davis of Temple. Sons, Ernie Cates, Jr. and wife Marilyn of Rockdale, Fred Allen Cates and wife Cindy of Rockdale, Mark Cates and wife Lisa of Tulsa, Oklahoma. Brothers, Melvin Cates of Casper, Wyoming, Earl Cates of Phoenix, Arizona. Sisters, Rose McKeown of Stillwater, Oklahoma, Zora Lamb of Owasso, Oklahoma. Grandchildren, Jennifer Hill and husband Shane of Little River. Brooks Davis and wife Jennifer of Temple. Ernest R. Cates, III, Charles Edward Cates and William Elliot Cates all of College Station. Fred Allen Cates, Jr. of Grand Junction, Colorado, Tearle Shane Cates and wife Megan of Rockdale, April Dawn Leita and husband Cory of Rockport, Kelly Grey Cates and husband Tim of Temple, Mark Joseph Cates of Tulsa, Oklahoma, Step grandsons, Joshua Bingham of Belton and David McCann of Temple. Great grandchildren; Caleb, Brianna and Eli Hill of Little River, Savannah, Mason

and Sable Davis of Temple, Carly and Chole Cates of Temple and one on the way, Azilee Ray Cates. Visitation, 6PM to 8PM Friday, January 23, 2009 at the funeral home. Services, 2:00 PM Saturday, January 24, 2009 at Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home, burial to follow in the I.O.O.F. Cemetery with Alan Gardenhire officiating. Pallbearers; Brooks Davis, Ernest R. Cates, III, Charles Edward Cates, William Elliot Cates, Fred Allen Cates, Jr., Tearle Shane Cates. Honorary Pallbearer; Mark Joseph Cates.

Tribute Wall

KW

“ *Ernie Cates, Sr.*

Kassie Waibel - January 26, 2009 at 10:06 AM

FB

“ *Ernie Cates, Sr.*

Fred & Cynthia Brown - January 25, 2009 at 02:27 PM

JJ

“ *Ernie Cates, Sr.*

Jeff & Rosemary Janisch - January 23, 2009 at 02:31 PM

AH

“ *Ernie Cates, Sr.*

Andrea Hastings - January 23, 2009 at 02:11 PM

LS

“ *Ernie Cates, Sr.*

Lisa Sury - January 23, 2009 at 01:42 PM

JV

“ *Ernie Cates, Sr.*

John and Michelle Vrana - January 23, 2009 at 12:51 PM

JC

“ *Ernie Cates, Sr.*

Julie Curb-Rich - January 23, 2009 at 11:55 AM