



John Howard Harrison, III

April 30, 1912 - March 14, 2009

John Howard Harrison, III of Lexington went to be with the Lord on Saturday, March 14, 2009. He was preceded in death by his parents, 3 brothers, Bert, James Palmer and John Howard Harrison, II and 2 sisters, Patsy and Katharine Harrison. John was born April 30, 1912 to John Howard and Katharine McGowan Harrison in Waco. John graduated from Waco High School in 1931 and graduated with a BA degree from Baylor University in 1942. He received his Master's degree from Baylor in 1952. John enlisted in the Army in 1942 and was assigned to the 19th Replacement Depot Regimental Headquarters in Little Rock, Arkansas. He was transferred to Germany and the "Battle of the Bulge". He was transferred to Paris, France as Liason Cadre then to Germany and France KGAT. He served four years as Liaison Cadre through the European theatre. While in France, he was assigned to the captured German "Luffwafer Haps". His assignment carried him throughout the war zones in England, France, Germany and Austria. He was honorably discharged in February 1946 and worked with the Veteran's Administration Educational and Vocational G.I. Bill for Veterans in the Waco office. John was an active civic leader, a Boy Scout leader, counselor for many years, a 32nd degree Mason, a member of Waco AF&AM #92 for 65 years, a member of Karem Shrine Temple in Waco, an advisor to the Capital District of Waco chapter Order of DeMolay and later Governor of the State of Texas. He also received the coveted degree of Legion of Honor, the highest award in the Order of DeMolay. John married Elizabeth Josephine Parker August 18, 1946

in Lexington. They lived in Waco five years before moving back to Lexington in 1952 to go into the cattle business where he and his wife have been active in the community for a number of years. He worked for IGC in Rockdale for 23 years. John along with past Mayor of Lexington Walter Exner brought the Lexington community together when they started and directed the Christmas celebration, "The Singing Christmas Tree", during the holiday season for 15 or more years. John's interests were vast, his cattle ranch operation kept him active in the outdoors but his love for painting and sketching kept his artistic abilities acute. He captured local scenes as well as scenery from Colorado, New Mexico, Montana and Wyoming. His love for the mountains, the Tetons, Lauren Falls of the Yellowstone in Wyoming, Mount "Capitan" of Ruidoso, New Mexico portrayed the majesty of his painting from sketches and drawing he brought back to his studio to dream and bring his memories to the canvas. His life has been devoted to his wife Betty Jo Harrison of Lexington, 3 daughters, Katharine Louise Bricker and husband Joe of Lexington, Elizabeth Dianne Hawley and husband Bob of Abilene and Rebecca Jean Ellis and husband Richard of Dallas; 10 grandchildren, John Patrick Bricker, JoLyn Bricker White, Jennifer Bricker Lansford, Meredith Ann Hawley Long, Russell Harrison Hawley, Jonathan Parker Hawley, Katharine Rebecca Hawley, Elizabeth Linen Ellis, Victoria Lace Ellis, Catherine Jewel Ellis; 6 great grandchildren, William Daniel and Johnson Joseph Bricker, Brooke Hannah, Heath Randal, Grant Taylor and Jack David Lansford. Services will be held at First Baptist Church in Lexington at 2:00 PM Wednesday, March 18, 2009. Visitation, 5PM to 8:30 PM Tuesday, March 17, 2009 at First Baptist Church in Lexington. Pallbearers; Randy Lewis, Barry Parker, Joe Bricker, Tim Kleinschmidt, Tom Kleinschmidt, Graham Brown, Charlie Wrinkle and Curtis Maass. Honorary pallbearers are the grandchildren. Memorial may be made to Lexington Cemetery Association, c/o Louis Knipstein, PO Box 426, Lexington, TX 78947 or to Lottie Moon Foreign Mission Fund at First Baptist Church, 221 Third Street, Lexington, TX 78947 or to Richard Ellis Radio Ministry, Reunion Church, PO Box 130778, Dallas, TX 75313 or to Norwood

Heights Baptist Church Children's Fund, 2214 Highway 155, Palestine, TX
75803.

Tribute Wall

DB

“ *John Howard Harrison, III*

David, Joanne Tally and Samuel Bergsten - March 18, 2009 at 09:39 PM

DB

“ *John Howard Harrison, III*

David and Joanne Tally Bergsten - March 18, 2009 at 06:04 PM

AW

“ *John Howard Harrison, III*

Albernita White - March 17, 2009 at 04:39 PM