



William "Billy" Otto Graeter

November 10, 1938 - July 6, 2024

Funeral services for William "Billy" Otto Graeter, 85 of Fayetteville, Texas, are scheduled for 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 11, 2024 at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Fayetteville, Texas with Pastor Jen Kindsvatter officiating. Burial will follow in the Shelby Cemetery in Shelby, Texas. Visitation will be held on Thursday, July 11, 2024 from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. at Phillips and Luckey Funeral Home in Giddings and from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Fayetteville.

William Otto Graeter, age 85, of Fayetteville, Texas, joined his heavenly family on July 6, 2024. He was born to Erwin J. Graeter, Sr. and Martha Schulke Brokmeyer on November 10, 1938. William never met a stranger, and was known to most as "Billy Graeter from Fayetteville."

William graduated from Fayetteville High School and immediately enlisted in the Army in 1957. On January 10, 1960, he married Rosalie Andreas of Eagle Lake. They honeymooned in Oklahoma, where William was stationed. They moved to El Campo after his time in the service, where he was a mechanic for Mustang Caterpillar, and he and Rose began their family. They then moved to Fayetteville and set up shop with Graeter Motor Company. William became the mayor of the City of Fayetteville at age 26 and was mayor for 30+ years.

The Masonic Lodge was a very important part of William's life. He began his

degree work for the lodge in January, 1960 and was raised to a Master Mason on April 13, 1960. He has been a member of the Fayetteville Masonic Lodge No. 240 since then. He has held various offices in the Fayetteville Lodge and was District Deputy Grand Master of District 33 from December 3, 1977 to December 2, 1978. He received the Golden Trowel Award on June 23, 1998, his 50-Year Service Award on April 8, 2010, and his 60-year service award on January 3, 2020. In addition to the Masonic Lodge, he was also an active member of the Colorado Valley Shrine Club.

William was a devoted and active member of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Fayetteville. He was faithful to turning on the AC when on his Sunday morning walk and setting up communion for the service.

William is preceded in death by his father Erwin J. Graeter, Sr., mother Martha Brokmeyer, infant brother Erwin J. Graeter, Jr., son-in-law Truman Hargrove, Jr., and daughter-in-law, Donna Graeter. He is survived by his wife, Rosalie, children—Jeffrey Graeter (and wife Eileen), Stephen Graeter, June Hargrove (and friend Paul Ashmore), and Kristen Holub (and husband Brent). He has two grandsons, Joshua and Jake Hargrove, and several great-grandchildren.

Serving as pallbearers will be Stephen Graeter, Jeff Graeter, Joshua Hargrove, Jake Hargrove, Brent Holub, and FJ Krenek III.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the St. Paul Lutheran Church Building Fund in Fayetteville.

Arrangements by Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home in Giddings.

Cemetery Details

Shelby Cemetery

5063 Voelkel Rd
Fayetteville, TX 78940

Previous Events

Public Visitation

JUL 11. 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - Giddings
3950 East Austin St.
Giddings, TX 78942
(979) 542-3113
phillipsluckey@yahoo.com
<https://www.phillipsandluckey.com/>

Public Visitation

JUL 11. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

St. Paul Lutheran Church - Fayetteville
201 N Rusk St
Fayetteville, TX 78940

Funeral Service

JUL 11. 2:00 PM (CT)

St. Paul Lutheran Church - Fayetteville
201 N Rusk St
Fayetteville, TX 78940

Tribute Wall

DN

“ We are so sorry to hear about your loss, all of you are in our thoughts and prayers. Darrel & Vickie Neutzler

Darrel Neutzler - July 11, 2024 at 03:06 PM

CB

“ Deepest sympathy to the family
Charlene Vanek Baker

Charlene Vanek Baker - July 11, 2024 at 02:34 PM

TS

“ Our deepest condolences to the entire family. 🕊️ ~Kenny and Tammy
(Wunderlich) Sodolak

Tammy Sodolak - July 11, 2024 at 11:00 AM

AS

“ Our deepest sympathy to all of Billy's family.
May God Bless all of you.



Alice and Earl Schmitt - July 11, 2024 at 10:50 AM

RC

“ Richard C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William "Billy" Otto Graeter.

Richard C. - July 10, 2024 at 11:35 PM

DA

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



dani - July 10, 2024 at 07:09 PM

LH

“ Condolences & prayers to the family. Lawrence & Cynthia Hrachovy

Lawrence & Cynthia Hrachovy - July 10, 2024 at 06:20 PM

RG

“ We were saddened by the news of Billy. Billy 's grandma & my (Carol Ann Goebel) grandma (Oma) Paula were sisters! We had much contact in “the good ole days”. Billy was very friendly & fun to be around! My dad, Bennie Goebel, & Billy we're good friends! He used Billy & his mechanic talent a lot! We know u all have many memories! We pray for you as you go through this sad time. 🙏❤️

Ron & Carol Goehring

Ron & Carol Goehring - July 10, 2024 at 11:08 AM



“ Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of William "Billy" Otto Graeter.



July 10, 2024 at 10:05 AM

AP

“ *Sorry for your loss.*
Ben Poncik

Amy Petrzelka - July 10, 2024 at 09:16 AM

EP

“ *Elizabeth Payne lit a candle in memory of*
William "Billy" Otto Graeter



Elizabeth Payne - July 09, 2024 at 10:38 PM

EP

“ *My Dad always enjoyed talking with Billy Graeter. Deepest*
condolences and sympathy to the family.

Elizabeth Payne - July 09, 2024 at 10:32 PM

JK

“ *janice knippel lit a candle in memory of*
William "Billy" Graeter



janice knippel - July 09, 2024 at 04:01 PM

TF

“ The City of Fayetteville purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of William "Billy" Otto Graeter.



The City of Fayetteville - July 09, 2024 at 12:28 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of William "Billy" Otto Graeter.



July 09, 2024 at 10:27 AM

HS

“ Hope Southwell planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William "Billy" Otto Graeter.

Hope Southwell - July 09, 2024 at 10:27 AM

GM

“ One of Fayetteville's treasures. Such a great guy to have a conversation with. You will miss Mr. Billy

Glenda Merritt - July 08, 2024 at 10:37 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of William "Billy" Otto Graeter.*



July 08, 2024 at 08:20 PM



“ *The members of Fayetteville Masonic Lodge are deeply saddened to hear of our Brothers passing.*

Fayetteville Masonic Lodge - July 08, 2024 at 08:16 PM



“ *I'm so sorry to hear Mr Graeter passed. He used to hang out at the laundromat when that was the only place I had to do my laundry. He told Me a lot of stories about his life. The last thing he said to me was "thanks for callin! We'll talk to you later!" So sad!*

stacy leyendecker - July 08, 2024 at 07:02 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of William "Billy" Otto Graeter.*



July 08, 2024 at 05:31 PM

DL

“ *Debbie Lincke planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William "Billy" Otto Graeter.*

Debbie Lincke - July 08, 2024 at 05:31 PM

BG

“ *Sending our deepest condolences to you all. Until we meet again "neighbor." Betty Gail & Warren*

Betty Gail Pflughaupt Guthmann - July 08, 2024 at 05:12 PM