

Maxwell, Billy Jack | 1932-2013

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Billy Jack Maxwell

Billy Jack Maxwell, 79, a devoted family man, died Monday, Feb. 18, 2013, at his home in Greenwood. Funeral was Feb. 22 at the First Baptist Church Slidell, with burial at the Moore Memorial Gardens in Arlington.

Bill was born Sept. 26, 1933, in Greenwood to Newton and Oleta (McDaniel) Maxwell. He married Miriam Kay Smith in Fort Worth Jan, 28, 1958.

Bill served in the U.S. Army from May 1955 to May 1957 and was a Korean War Veteran. After his military career, he furthered his education and taught shop for Dallas ISD, ultimately receiving his master's degree in education from North Texas State University in Denton. He moved his family to Austin when he acquired a job with the Texas Education Agency, where he worked for several years. The family then moved to Carrollton where Bill worked in a management position with Braniff Education Systems, an aircraft maintenance vocational school. He moved on to establish vocational schools for other private groups.

Upon retiring, he and his wife, Kay, came back to Greenwood where he started his Boer goat ranch and became actively involved in the church community. He rose early every morning with coffee, Bible study and prayer prior to moving on to his passion – his animals and building and maintaining his ranch before proceeding to the Greenwood firehouse for dominos at 1 p.m.

He was an active member of the First Baptist Church of Slidell where he worked with the youth, driving the children's bus, working in Vacation Bible School, participating in steering committees and serving as a deacon. He was also active with the Greenwood Homecoming Committee, Greenwood Cemetery Committee and was an honorary member of the Greenwood EE Club. His pride and joy were his children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and his goats.

He is survived by his sister, Marijon Rutherford and husband, Bennie, of Greenwood; brother-in-law Travis Smith and wife, Doris, of Kerrville; daughter Dema McNew of Lake Dallas; son Dwane Maxwell and wife, Karla, of Greenwood; grandson Brandon McNew and wife, Danielle, of Aubrey; granddaughter Diana Fields and husband, Ryan, of Corinth; granddaughters Annie and Lydia Maxwell of Greenwood; great-granddaughters Maci, Olivia and Paityn McNew of Aubrey; as well as nieces, nephews and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents and his wife of 43 years.