



**Woodruff, Martin Bennett**

1948-2024

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*on January 10, 2024*

Decatur ~ Martin Bennett Woodruff, 75, went to be with our Lord Monday, Jan. 8, 2024, surrounded by loved ones.

Funeral is 10:30 a.m. Saturday at First United Methodist Church of Decatur. Family will receive friends 6-8 p.m. Friday at Hawkins Funeral Home in Decatur. Military honors will be provided by The Wise County Veterans Group.

Martin was born June 19, 1948, to Willard Bennett Jr. and Mary Louise (Gettys) Woodruff in Austin. He was united in marriage Jan. 1, 1971, to Jana Sue Long in Decatur. Martin attended the University of Texas at Arlington, where he sang folk music and was active in ROTC. After graduating in 1970 with a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics, he proudly served in United States Army, both in Vietnam & around the U.S. During his service, he was able to earn master's degrees in both logistics and

computer science. He retired from the service in 1979 and moved back to Decatur.

Martin retired after many years as a manager for POCO Graphite. Martin dedicated over 44 years to the Lion's Club. He served on the Decatur City Council for 15 years and held the position of mayor from 2012 to 2020.

Woodruff helped create the Wise County Health Forum and played a key role in establishing the Health Fair and the Community Health Center. He served as the head of the Reunion parking committee and held the position of treasurer from 2007 to 2013. Additionally, he was a member of United Way since 1993, eventually becoming the Executive Director in 2003. Martin was an active member of FUMC in Decatur, serving as Song-Leader for 30 years in the early service after Charles Wilhite. A beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, brother-in-law, uncle, and friend to many, he will be dearly missed.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Willard and Mary Louise Woodruff; and a brother, Tim Woodruff.

Those left behind to cherish his memory are his wife of 53 years, Jana Woodruff of Decatur; two daughters, Thea Woodruff of Austin and husband, Shannon Shaddock, and Lauren Campbell and husband, Lance of Prairie Grove, Arkansas; a son, Evan Woodruff and wife, Gina of Austin; eight grandchildren, Zoe and fiancé, Trevor, Aiden, Zachary, Ronan, Thorin, Crozle, Alexandra, and Jaxon; his brother, Mason Woodruff and wife, Karen; sisters, Nannette Williams and husband, Kevin, and Nola Cocanougher and husband, Daniel; his sister-in-law, Joy Woodruff; numerous, nieces, nephews and a host of friends.

Hawkins Funeral Home Decatur | 940-627-5959 | [Hawkinsfuneralhome.com](http://Hawkinsfuneralhome.com)