



## Lyman Elwood McElveen

August 12, 1928 - March 25, 2020

Lyman Elwood McElveen, age 91, went home to be with his Lord on March 25, 2020, in Tyler Texas after a brief illness. A celebration of life service will be held at a later date. Elwood was born on August 12, 1928, in Statesboro, Georgia, to parents Homer and Molly Pearl of Stilson, Georgia. In high school, he excelled at basketball and played a significant role in Stilson's success on the court. After high school, he attended and played basketball for an agricultural college for a short time. He left school and began working and had way too many jobs to list; from railroad jobs to counting boll weevils and driving pulpwood trucks. He moved to Dallas in 1949, became friends with Malcolm Watson and eventually went to work for Watson Electric Supply in September of that year. He also became a member of Lakeside Baptist Church. In 1950 he was drafted into the Army. After his time of service, he returned to Dallas and continued to work for Watson Electric, eventually becoming Vice President. After seeing Anna at church, he made sure she was on the list of guests that he was to visit. They married in 1954 and purchased a home in the Casa View area of Dallas. Over the next few years, they had 3 sons. They later built a home in Forney and lived there until 1993. Elwood and Anna were active members of First Baptist of Forney where he served as a deacon. When they moved to Hide-a-way Lake they became members of Hide-a-way Lake Community Church.

Elwood was a friend to all. He was always supportive of the churches he attended including staff and their families. He loved to sing all the time. He enjoyed singing in church choirs, groups and singing solos. He sang at many weddings and funerals. Later he sang for retirement and nursing homes.

His family and friends will always remember him as a man that lived out his faith every day. Elwood was involved in his churches and communities in many ways and interacted with thousands of people. In the conversations, text, and phone calls since his passing there has been a common message; he was nice to everyone.

Elwood is survived by his 3 sons, Wes and Lisa, of Lulling, Texas; Les and wife Joan, of Mt. Pleasant, Texas; Elwood, Jr., and wife Joni, of Dallas, Texas. Seven grandchildren: Tana Ruston and husband Lee, Shanna Selph, Savannah Zelinski and husband Nick, Tyler McElveen and wife Kelly, Addison McElveen and Remy Baril, Raime McElveen and Jacey McElveen, and 8 great-grandchildren: James Haley, Shane, Amelia, Kinzley, Griffin,

Miles, Bodie, and Kase, and great-great-grandchild, Zion. Sisters, Alva Kohn, of Louisville, Kentucky, Ganelle Hall and husband Jim of Edmond, Oklahoma, Brother Emerson, of Bullard, Texas, also many nieces, nephews, and friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Homer and Molly Pearl; his wife, Anna Jo; his brother, Harold, and wife Jenny, of Stilson, Georgia; his Brother-in-law Townes Kohn of Louisville, Kentucky, and sister-in-law Thelma McElveen of Bullard, Texas. He also had two siblings; Franklin and Mertie who died during their childhood.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to Hospice of East Texas at 4111 University Blvd. Tyler, Texas 75701 or [hospiceofeasttexas.org](http://hospiceofeasttexas.org).

# Comments

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“ I met Elwood several years ago when I listed his home on the water. We became fast friends and found we shared a love for music. He was telling me that he loved Rosemary Clooney so I took him a CD of Bette Midler singing Rosemary Clooneys songs and he loved it! He would stop and visit me at my office every now and then to check on me. I told him I should be checking on you! I loved his humor and his love for life. He came to see me one day telling me to list his house. He had already moved to the Wesley house. I questioned him because he didn't seem ready for that. Well a couple of weeks later he came in and said "cancel that listing I moved back in I'm not ready for that". I laughed and said I told you so! I will miss that smiling face and those hugs. He was one of my favorite people. May his memory be eternal.

**Trish Anderson** - March 30, 2020 at 03:52 PM

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“ Mr. McElveen was a fine Christian gentleman, a model for men today to follow. My prayers for y'all's comfort.

**John B Kirk** - March 30, 2020 at 02:51 PM

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“ One of our most favorite memories will be listening to him sing at Mrs. Martha's service. His sweet voice is forever etched into our hearts and that particular day was poignant beyond words. What an influence his life truly is to us. Thank you, Mr. Elwood, for your JESUS loving life .

**Kim Howell** - March 30, 2020 at 11:29 AM

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“ We sat behind Elwood every Sunday morning at church. What a sweet and loving man. Loved to hear him sing the old hymns and his strong Amen during the service. After church and Sunday School he ate with the crowd at Whataburger. Every Sunday he said, “ glad you got to see me today.” We will miss hearing those words and the man we so dearly loved.  
Kay and David Simmons

**Kay and David Simmons** - March 29, 2020 at 11:56 AM

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“ My heart goes out to the family for your loss.

**Mark Nix** - March 28, 2020 at 11:42 AM