



Willie Joe Edwards, Sr.

FEB 29, 1932 - OCT 9, 2011



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Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Tribute Wall	Page 5



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Funeral services for Willie Joe Edwards, Sr., 79, of Leesville, Louisiana will be held at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, October 15, 2011, at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church in Leesville with Rev. Joseph Garner officiating. Burial will follow in the Garden of Memories Cemetery in Leesville, LA under the direction of Labby Memorial Funeral Home of Leesville.

Visitation will be held from 6 pm - 8 pm, Friday, October 14, 2011, at the funeral home.

Willie Joe Edwards was the eighth child born on February 29, 1932, to George Edwards, Sr. and Lillian Edwards. In October 1952, he answered the call to serve his country in the Korean War. After returning to the United States he graduated from Vernon Training School in 1955. On September 5, 1955, he married his high school sweetheart Loretta Dean. To this union, six children were born but one (Earl Cornelius Edwards) preceded him in death immediately at birth.

Willie enjoyed working in his yard, cutting grass and planting flowers with his wife. He also did landscaping for a few others as well. Willie was best known for how clean he kept his automobiles and was often admired for that. He felt strongly about politics and the welfare of his community. He never met a stranger and would always give you a smile. In his early years, he was a member of the Esquire Club, a local quartet and Masonic Lodge #41 P.H.A. He was also the owner of a detail shop in the late 1980s.

He was last employed with the Vernon Parish School Board office where he was loved and adored by all and highly admired for his exceptional work and sense of humor.

Willie accepted Christ at an early age and joined Pleasant Hill Baptist Church under the leadership of Rev. D.L. Carter. Over the years he served in following capacities: Choir, Brotherhood President, Training Union Director, Deacon, Sound Technician, Sunday School and Street Beautification Ministry. He was faithful to his church until his health failed.



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His father George Edwards, Sr.; his mother, Lillian Scott Edwards; six brothers and three sisters preceded Willie in death.

He leaves to cherish his memory, his devoted wife of 56 years, Loretta Edwards and five children: Deborah A. Edwards, Jacqueline (Kevin) Langston, Willie J. Edwards, Jr., Derrick J. Edwards, Sr., and Letitia (Johnny) McKenzie.

Two sisters: Jennie (Wayne) Mines of Baltimore, MD and Betty Rose Jenkins of Atlanta, GA. One brother-in-law: Robert Dean of Leesville, LA; Two sister-in laws: Thelma Edwards of Houston, TX and Mattie Dean of DeRidder, LA.

Ten grandchildren: Kevin Langston, Jr., Darrius Langston, Fanta Langston, Shanari Burns, Morgan Edwards, Evelyn Edwards, Derrick Edwards, Jr., Eden Edwards, Aaliyah Edwards and Alexis McKenzie; five great grandchildren, a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.



Tribute Wall

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LF

Lisa Franklin posted:

My thoughts and prayers are with your family during this difficult time. God bless all of you!

June 2 at 6:00 AM

KB

Kevin Burnett posted:

i would like too send my condolences to the edwards family, he will be truely missed. heaven is awaiting him

June 2 at 6:00 AM

LL

Larry & Janice Leggins posted:

Our prayers are with the family! You were a mentor to me as well as others, you will be missed bro Willie Joe, rest in peace

June 2 at 6:00 AM

GR

George & Maebelle Richardson posted:

Mrs. Edwards we are so sorry for your loss may the memories that you shared together bring you some comfort. You and your family have our deepest sympathy and we will keep you in prayer. Much love to you and your family.

June 2 at 6:00 AM

SH

Sandra Hunter posted:

i am so sorry for your loss. your family is in my prayers.

June 2 at 6:00 AM

GF

Gwendolyn Cooper-Furr posted:

To the Edwards family, our prays and words of comfort is with you doing this time in the loss of your husband, father, grandfather, uncle, best friend. May GOD keep you and watch over you doing this time. Many Blessing the Cooper Family.

June 2 at 6:00 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Willie by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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