



## Billy Edwin Coley

September 16, 1926 - January 4, 2017

Billy Edwin Coley peacefully left this life on January 4, 2017, in Houston, Texas, at the age of 90. He was born on the 16th day of September, 1926 in Mt. Pleasant, Texas. The family later moved to Huntsville where he lived for the next 80 years.

Bill joined the Army at the beginning of the Korean Conflict. After completing his military service he returned to Huntsville where he married Rose Marie Sowell. They were married 70 years and had one daughter.

Ever the personable and hard-working gentleman, Bill worked for a number of local businesses over the years including Hudspeth's, Rogers Shoe Store and Walker-Byrd Building Supply. Bill was always sweet and helpful, willing to pitch in where needed, and he perpetually exuded a delightful and slightly mischievous sense of humor, telling jokes and breaking into a happy grin when the punchline was delivered, all in great fun. He was also known as a "handy man" by his family and friends.

Bill and his wife Rose (who preceded him in death in 2015), were faithful members of First Baptist Church for decades. The role of managing the Sound Board System for the church fell most naturally to Bill and was especially suited to his skills and creativity, as well as building much-needed shelving for the church library.

He also traveled with Rose, his wife, on her many "Gold Citizen" trips; his favorite being Alaska.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Coley, brothers Kenneth Coley and Harold Coley, sister Marie Atkinson Middleton, and by his wife Rose. He is survived by his only child, daughter Debra Lynne, along with her husband Jim Ebeling, granddaughter Kathryn Shanklin Holcomb (to whom Bill was affectionately known as "Pops"), along with her husband, Jeff Holcomb and their baby girl, Jacklynn, Bill's great-granddaughter.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, January 7th, 2017, at one o'clock in the afternoon at Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home, Huntsville, Texas. A graveside service will be immediately following. Visitation will be Friday, January 6th, 2017, from five thirty to seven thirty at the funeral home.

# Cemetery Details

## Adickes addition of Oakwood Cemetery

700 Martin Luther King Blvd  
Huntsville, TX

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 6. 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM (CT)

Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home - Huntsville  
1700 Normal Park Dr.  
Huntsville, TX 77340  
(936) 291-7300  
belinda@shmfm.com

## Service

JAN 7. 1:00 PM (CT)

Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home - Huntsville  
1700 Normal Park Dr.  
Huntsville, TX 77340  
(936) 291-7300  
belinda@shmfm.com

# Tribute Wall



“ *Billy Edwin Coley*

November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ *Willie Head, Jenna, Jackie purchased the Imagination Blooms for the family of Billy Edwin Coley.*



**Willie Head, Jenna, Jackie** - January 16, 2017 at 04:51 PM



“ *I rented a duplex on Ave O from Mr. & Mrs. Coley and they were both very dear to me. Mrs. Coley invited me to join them at First Baptist Church in 2012 and I loved attending services and sitting beside them every Sunday. Mrs. Coley and I would chat on the phone many evenings and I enjoyed her grace and kindness. Mr. Coley was the most attentive landlord and made sure everything was in tip top shape to include killing ants in the yard He was always cracking jokes and wore a big smile I felt like they were extra grandparents to me. In fact, my grandmother, Eva Dee Doughtie Brown and Mr. Coley graduated Huntsville High School together in 1945. My life was enriched with their friendship and love of God they showed through actions and words. What a wonderful life to be married for 70 years. My thoughts and prayers are with the family during this difficult time.*



**Ruby Wolverton Cowan** - January 08, 2017 at 01:32 AM

GG

“ Both Rose and Bill were among our favorite Huntsvillians and will be missed. Bill was always helpful and friendly and a fine gentleman. Blessings to the family during this time.

Greg Gathright - January 06, 2017 at 07:40 PM

MW

“ Bill & Rose were such a sweet & caring couple. They took a lot of senior citizens on trips of a lifetime. They were very involved in their church. They loved to decorate their home for Christmas and they were so gracious to share their home in the Huntsville Open Home Christmas tours for years. They loved to talk about their daughter and granddaughter. They were great neighbors in the Forest Hills subdivision. I know they are both happy to be together again in Heaven.



Mellicent Sikes Wiley - January 06, 2017 at 09:00 AM

CB

“ Carolyn Goodrow Baker lit a candle in memory of Billy Edwin Coley



Carolyn Goodrow Baker - January 05, 2017 at 09:28 PM

MH

“ *M Hyvl lit a candle in memory of Billy Edwin Coley*



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**M Hyvl** - January 05, 2017 at 05:02 PM