

Delbert M. Williams



Delbert M. Williams, 82, passed away on April 5, 2003. Memorial services will be held at 10 a.m. Tuesday, April 8, at the First United Methodist Church in Dumas with Rev. John Wagoner, Pastor, officiating.

Graveside services will be held on Wednesday at 10 a.m., April 9, in the family plot at Carr's Chapel and Cemetery at the Harmony Community (between Petersburg and Floydada, Texas). Officiating the graveside will be Rev. Ted Wilson, Pastor of the First United Methodist Church in Petersburg, and Rev. Tom Griffin, Pastor of the First Baptist Church in Petersburg. Masonic services will be read by the members of the Masonic Lodge. Services are under the direction of Lemons Funeral Home of Plainview. Delbert M. Williams was born December 28, 1920, in Akin, Texas. He was a Dumas resident since 1967. He graduated from Petersburg High School in 1938. He served as mayor of Petersburg from 1962 to 1968 and was a member of the Masonic Lodge in Petersburg for 62 years. He was a pilot with the U.S.A.A.F. in the European theater, flying C47-C109 Aircraft, 438th Troop Carrier Group. He served in the Army Air Corps from 1942 to 1946; received the Purple Heart and two air medals; and was later awarded the Bronze Star in 1997 for service in 1945 in the European campaign. He was owner/operator of Delbert Williams Flying Service from 1961 to 1986. He was a past President of Texas Aerial Applicators Association and helped write and put in to effect the present Texas licensing law for all aerial applicators. Between 1986 and 1988, he flew for the federal government in Mexico and flew freight at night before getting back into spraying in 1988 for Spark Bros. In 2000, after 50 years of spraying, he began as a Weather Modification Aviation Supervisor with North Plains

Groundwater District. He had served as Airport Manager at the Moore County Airport in Dumas, and as of 2001, he was still flying thunderstorm weather modification. Survivors include a son, Lynn Williams and wife Patty of Dumas; a daughter, Linda Freeman and husband Ronnie of Lubbock; a sister, Billie Lee Heard of Plainview; grandchildren Sindy and Darin Green and Tiffeny and Carlos Gonzales of Petersburg; Airman 1st Class Damon Woods, U.S.A.F. serving in Japan, Amber Adams of Dumas, Lisa Coffman, Staci Shive, and Veronica Freeman of Lubbock; and great-grandchildren Whitley Gonzales, Chaz Gonzales, Karlea Long, Chase Shive, Zachary Freeman, and Bryson Shive.