

## In Loving Memory

Robert F. Dye

10/18/1920-12/10/2015

Robert Fulton Dye, 95, passed away December 10, 2015, at home with his wife of 68 years, Rebecca, at his side.

He enjoyed many years of good health before his recent illness and was a lifelong learner and enjoyed traveling, but put his family and his beloved wife first in everything.

Born on a farm in Gloster, Mississippi that had been in his family for more than a century, they lost it during the Great Depression. He graduated from Gloster High School and worked his way through Mississippi State University, graduating with a degree in Chemical Engineering in January 1943. In February 1943 he entered the United States Army, attended Officer Candidate School at Camp Davis, North Carolina, and was commissioned Second Lieutenant, Coast Artillery Corps in May 1943. In the Army, Mr. Dye attended Harvard University and MIT pursuing a specialized course in electronics and radio engineering and subsequently served in the Central Pacific Theater from 1944-1946.

After the war Mr. Dye returned to Mississippi and married his sweetheart, Rebecca Jane Gaston, in 1947. In the early 1950s he attended Georgia Institute of Technology earning his M.S. ('51) and PhD ('53) in Chemical Engineering. While there, the first of three daughters, Rebecca Jane, was born. Following completion of his PhD, he worked for ten years for Phillips Petroleum Company in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, where daughters Margaret Gladys and Robin Elaine were born.

In the early 1960s he served for three years as Director of the Mississippi Industrial and Technological Research Commission before joining Shell Development Company in Emeryville, California and later Houston, Texas where he worked for 25 years, retiring 1991. During his career with Phillips and Shell, Mr. Dye was the author of 35 U.S. patents and an authority on Ethylene Oxide and Ethylene Glycols. Among other professional organizations, he was a Fellow in the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Institute of Chemical Engineering. He was also involved in Kiwanis International for several decades.

In addition to his Chemical Engineering career he was a deacon and served in Southern Baptist churches throughout his life. Most recently he was a member of First Baptist Church, Friendswood, Texas.

Mr. Dye is survived by his wife, Rebecca Jane Gaston Dye, three daughters, Rebecca Dye Parkhill (husband Trent), Margaret Dye Baker (husband Wesley), and Robin Dye-Martin (husband Don). Other survivors include seven grandchildren, Jason Parkhill (wife Kristen), Robert Baker (wife Jamie), Donnie Martin (wife Rebekah), Scott Parkhill, Sarah Martin, Stirling Martin and Kristin Baker, and two great-grandchildren, Caleb and Zooey Parkhill.

Funeral services will be Tuesday, Dec. 15 at 3 p.m. at First Baptist Church Friendswood, 111 E. Heritage, Friendswood, Texas with Rev. Roger Patterson officiating. Burial will follow at a later date in Calhoun City, Mississippi.