



Rev. Bill Tatom

June 9, 1920 - July 7, 2009

Rev. Bill Tatom, of Bolivar, passed away on July 7, 2009, after a long illness. Born June 9, 1920, in Higginsville, Missouri, Billy Ray Tatom was the son of David Ray and Hazel Tatom. He learned building trades from his father, but heard a call to preach, delivering his first sermon in 1939. He attended Southwest Baptist College and received his bachelors degree from William Jewell College. He met Mildred McGranahan at Southwest, and they were married June 5, 1943. Rev. Tatom pastored churches in several communities in Missouri before undertaking pastorates in Casa Grande, Arizona, and in Bellflower, California, where his leadership among Southern Baptists was widely recognized. After returning to Missouri, he pastored Calvary Baptist Church, in Independence from 1967 through 1978. He retired to Bolivar in 1984 after serving Ridgeview Baptist Church, in Fayetteville, Arkansas. He continued to preach, however, serving more than a dozen interim pastorates over the years. His outstanding service in ministry was honored by a Life Service Award from Southwest Baptist College and by an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from the Cambridge Graduate School in Springdale, Arkansas. He is survived by his wife, Mildred, of Bolivar, his daughter, Nancy Tatom Ammerman, and her husband, Jack Ammerman, of Boston, Massachusetts, and his granddaughter, Abigail Tatom Ammerman, of Chevy Chase, Maryland. He is also survived by a brother, Jerry Tatom, of Santa Fe, New Mexico, and a sister, Dorothy Summers, of Concordia, Missouri. Funeral services will be at 2:30 PM Sunday, July 12, 2009 in Bolivar First Baptist Church. Interment will

be in Greenwood Cemetery. Visitation will be Saturday, from 7:00 to 8:00 PM at Murray Funeral Home, Bolivar and Sunday from 1:30 to 2:30 PM at Bolivar First Baptist Church. Memorial gifts in lieu of flowers may be given to the American Bible Society.

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Tribute Wall



“ *Rev. Bill Tatom*

October 05, 2023 at 05:18 AM



“ *Rev. Bill Tatom*

January 26, 2023 at 04:15 PM



“ *Sending my deepest sympathy in your time of loss. Edie Tatom Osterhues*

Edie Tatom Osterhues - August 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Sending my deepest sympathy in your time of loss.*

Edie Tatom Osterhues - August 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Sending you our deepest sympathy in your time of loss. Uncle Bill was truly a wonderful man and will be missed. Lots of Love to you and your family, Leta G. Bracken-Waters & Clifford R. Waters, Diana Waters-Leonard & Young Leonard, Linda & Laren Waters, Cole & Caiden Waters.*

Diana Leonard - July 09, 2009 at 12:00 AM

HS

“ *Our sympathy goes out to you in the loss of Bill. However, we can all rejoice in the assurance of where he is now. He was a good, godly man -one to be admired.*

Hugh and Twila Smith - July 08, 2009 at 12:00 AM