



## John W. Dudley

May 27, 1922 - November 2, 2009

Military graveside services for John W. Dudley, 87, of the Stewart Community, will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2009, at Stewart Cemetery with Rev. Martin Clickard officiating under the direction of Crawford-A.Crim Funeral Home in Henderson. Mr. Dudley died Monday, Nov. 2, 2009, at a Longview hospital. He was born May 27, 1922, in Gladys, Va. and had lived in the Stewart Community since 1965. He was a Baptist. He retired from Anderson Hickey in the maintenance department in 1986 and retired from the U.S. Air Force. Technical Sergeant John W. Dudley, Rescue and Survival Technician with Operations and Training Division, 6510 Air Base Group, AFSC. He enlisted in the U.S. Army on Dec. 19, 1941 and was discharged on Oct. 24, 1945. He enlisted in the U. S. Air Force on April 19, 1948 and served on continuous active duty until his retirement on July 1, 1965. He served overseas in England, Japan, Morocco and the Azores. While serving in Morocco, he was in Air Rescue and made a jump where his parachute failed to deploy and he miraculously landed "safely and without injury" in the snow covered mountains. During his career, Tech. Sergeant Dudley was awarded the following medals: Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, Good Conduct Medal w/one Silver Loop, American Campaign Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, World War II Victory Medal, Army of Occupation Medal (Japan), National Defense Service Medal, Korean Service Medal w/five Bronze Service Stars, Air Force Longevity Service Award w/ four Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters, Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation, United Nations

Service Medal and the U.S. Air Force NCO Academy Graduate Ribbon. He was also part of the 3rd Air Rescue, which was the 1st Air Rescue Service for the U.S. Air Force, flying 40 rescue missions into North Korea during the Korean conflict to rescue downed American pilots. He, along with his wife of 56 years, whom he loved so dearly, also loved to garden and raised countless vegetables through the years since his retirement, all for the enjoyment of his family, whom he also loved so much. Family will receive friends from 5-7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2009, at Crawford-A. Crim Funeral Home. He was preceded in death by: parents, Roy Lee Dudley and Rosa Martin Dudley; son, John Edward Dudley; brothers, Roy Dudley Jr. and Carlton Dudley; sisters, Jane Wilson, Emma Reynolds and Gracie Reynolds. Survivors include: his wife of 56 years, Lola Gray Dudley; son, David Dudley and wife Susan of Austin; daughter, Patti Dudley Beall and husband Johnny of the Stewart Community; stepchildren, Linda Latham and husband E. H. of the Stewart Community, Jim Sweeney and wife Sue of the Stewart Community; sisters, Lib Wade of Lynchburg, Va. and Louise Plane of Charlottesville, Va.; brother, Al Dudley of Ashland, Ky.; six grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. Pallbearers will be the Air Force.

# Previous Events

## visitation

NOV 3. 5:00 PM (CT)

Crawford A. Crim Funeral Home  
1414 South Main Street  
Henderson, TX 75654

# Tribute Wall

BB

“ *David I am so sorry to hear about your dad. I will keep you and your family in my prayers during this difficult time. Britt*

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**Britt Burt** - November 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SO

“ *Patti, I am so sorry about the loss of your Dad. It seemed so unusual the you and Jan had losses at the same time. I will keep you all in my prayers. I have been where you are and God carries us through. May you all be blessed, Stephanie , Phillip and family*

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**Stephanie Osteen** - November 06, 2009 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ *Our prayers are with yall I,m sorry about your Dad, Their in a better place now. Chuck and Lynn*

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**Chuck and Lynn McDonald** - November 04, 2009 at 12:00 AM

EG

“ *aunt lola and family, our thoughts and prayers are with you. we are so sorry to hear of your loss of uncle john. may god comfort each of you as you lean on him for strength. may god bless you, love and prayers, eddie and teresa gray*

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**eddie and teresa gray** - November 04, 2009 at 12:00 AM

PD

“ *Ms Dudley and Patti I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you at this time. Trust in god , and he will see you through this. It was wonderful seeing you at Sams the other day. Again, you are in my thoughts and prayers.*

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**pete dheil** - November 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM