



## P.O.W. Richard David Carter

August 22, 1923 - November 1, 2014

P.O.W. Richard David Carter departed this life to enter his heavenly home on November 1, 2014 at the age of 91. He was born in Rodessa, LA to Clarence J. Carter and Florence E. Carter, the eighth of nine children.

Richard and family moved to Henderson when he was 9 years old. He graduated from Gaston High School in 1942 then joined the Army Air Force. He was an Aerial Engineer on a B24 bomber in the 453rd Bomb group. He flew missions for months including one over the Ploesti oil fields. He was shot down over Paris on April 25th 1944. He was still in the plane when it exploded. This was his 13th mission. Captured by the Germans, he spent 1 year and 11 days in Stalag Luft 17B, Krems, Austria before he was liberated by General George S. Patton. He was awarded the Purple Heart, Oak Leaf Cluster Air Medal, Good Conduct, and the European Theatre medals. He waited 54 years for the Purple Heart Medal which he received in 1999. A memorial brick is displayed in his honor along the Eighth Air Force Memorial Walking Museum at Barksdale Air Force Base, LA.

Richard went to work for the United States Postal Service in Henderson retiring on August 31, 1980 after 39 years of service. He became a Christian at an early age and as he grew older was always very active in his church. He was a member of First Baptist Church of Henderson and served in many positions, always teaching Sunday school for junior boys up to senior adults. In 1965 Richard and Mary joined a group from Greenwood, LA called Builders for Christ. Families went into pioneer areas and donated their labor to build

Baptist churches. This soon became the joy of their lives. In 1981 the name was changed to Volunteer Christian Builders and he was elected as Project Coordinator. In 1993 he had 19 crews from different churches donating their labor to help others have a place to worship. He always said "We do not need a lot of money. We depend on the Lord's direction." Under God's leadership he was blessed to lead families from First Baptist Church for 19 years.

Richard has led groups in most all the 50 states plus Burkina Faso, West Africa. He loved serving the Master Carpenter. He was a man known for kindness and a giving heart, always ready to help others.

He served his community in many ways, was a volunteer for Habitat for Humanity, Election Judge Precinct 4, Trustee for Pineywoods Baptist Camp, Board of Directors for East Texas Government Credit Union, Master Mason for 50 years, and Clinton Lodge #23. He gave of his time and labor to help construct the Hispanic Mission from First Baptist Church.

In 2002, Dr. Laci Morgan arranged to have the American Flag to fly over the Capitol in Washington, D.C. in his honor. This flag was then mailed to Mary Carter for her to keep.

For the past year and 10 months, Richard was a resident of Watkins-Logan Texas State Veterans Home in Tyler. The care, attention, and love that he received in this Godly place were such a blessing. He was in G House – We called it God's house. He was there with his band of brothers and so very happy. The final salute given by his brothers and staff as the hearse slowly passed each cottage touched the heart of his family. How blessed we are that God placed him in this lovely place. We could never find the words to thank these special men and women for their service and sacrifice, along with Compass Hospice who gave excellent care to our loved one.

Richard is survived by his loving, faithful wife Mary of 52 years; son J.E. Makarski (Sharon); daughter Pat Blevins (Craig); grandchildren Drs. Lori Cavitt and Justin Cavitt, Zeb Makarski, and Dr. Laci Morgan and Rudy Morgan; great grandchildren Barrett Cavitt and Brock Cavitt; adoptive grandchildren, Priya Pai (Princess) and Nikhil Pai (Cowboy); step

grandchildren WO2 Brad Blevins stationed in Kuwait (Megan) and Daniel Blevins (Tammy); step great grandchildren Emily, Leah, Joseph, Kali, and Aubrey; many nephews and nieces; and one special niece Sue Coon. He was preceded in death by his parents, four brothers and three sisters, and a special granddaughter Loni Marie Barron.

Military graveside services will be held November 4, 2014 at 10:00am with Dr. David Higgs and Brother Johnny Newton officiating. Military honors will be at Rusk County Memorial Gardens under the direction of Crawford A. Crim Funeral Home. There will be no official visitation.

Honorary pall bearers will be First Baptist Church Volunteer Christian Builders' families. In lieu of flowers, a memorial contribution may be made to First Baptist Church Volunteer Christian Builders at 207 W. Main Street, Henderson, TX 75652.

Words of comfort may be shared with the family at [www.crawfordacrim.com](http://www.crawfordacrim.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Rusk County Memorial Gardens

Hwy 259 N.  
Henderson, TX 75652

# Previous Events

## Graveside

NOV 4. 10:00 AM (CT)

Rusk County Memorial Gardens  
Hwy 259 N.  
Henderson, TX 75652

# Tribute Wall

SB

“ Thinking of all of you! DePaw and Mrs. Mary are some of my favorite people!



Sandy Brummett - November 05, 2014 at 10:40 AM

UF

“ Uma And Family lit a candle in memory of P.O.W. Richard David Carter



Uma and family - November 03, 2014 at 08:00 PM

TF

“ The Pai Family sent a virtual gift in memory of P.O.W. Richard David Carter



The Pai Family - November 03, 2014 at 07:58 PM

TF

“ The Pai Family lit a candle in memory of P.O.W. Richard David Carter



The Pai Family - November 03, 2014 at 07:56 PM



“ *Kay Yates lit a candle in memory of P.O.W.  
Richard David Carter*



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**Kay Yates** - November 03, 2014 at 06:58 PM

BB

“ *Mary, Pat, and Laci we are so sorry to hear of Dick's passing. As I think about Dick I cannot think of anyone who was as giving as Dick, He gave his all for his country and his family was his life. He gave his all for the Volunteer Christian Builders. He was there for anyone in need. They don't make them like Dick Carter anymore. He was one for the ages. God bless you all and know he is not suffering anymore.*

*Mari and Bill Baker*

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**Bill Baker** - November 03, 2014 at 03:29 PM



“ *Just to let you, the family, know that we are praying for comfort and peace as you go through this difficult time. We are thankful that Dick is at rest and to know that he is in the presence of Jesus. God bless you all!*



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**Anita Rumbo-Hays-Flowers** - November 03, 2014 at 10:35 AM

KC

“ Mrs. Carter, I am saddened by the death of Mr. Carter, we really loved him at New Sound Hearing, as we do you. Sharon and Pat have our deepest sympathies, love and prayers in the days to come. Kathy Chapman and Harold Phillips-New Sound Hearing.

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**Kathy Chapman** - November 02, 2014 at 09:18 PM

BJ

“ So sorry about Richard. I pray God will give you peace and comfort.

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**Betty Johnson** - November 02, 2014 at 09:25 AM

BJ

“ I am so sorry to hear about Dick. I pray God will comfort you and give you peace. He is doing so good now!

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**Betty Johnson** - November 02, 2014 at 09:23 AM

BM

“ Dear Mary,  
I have such fond memories of R.D. starting at Trinity Baptist Church and enjoyed so much listening to his conversations with my Dad as they drank coffee together on North Marshall Street. His memory will remain in my heart.

*Sincerely, Billy F. Martin*

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**Billy Martin** - November 02, 2014 at 12:10 AM

LL

“ Linda Jimmerson Long lit a candle in memory of P.O.W. Richard David Carter



Linda Jimmerson Long - November 01, 2014 at 06:14 PM

DK

“ David And Peggy Keeling lit a candle in memory of P.O.W. Richard David Carter



David and Peggy Keeling - November 01, 2014 at 06:11 PM

MM

“ Mary, JD, Pat, Lacie, I am so sorry to read of Dick's passing. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you as you bid him an earthly farewell. Rest assured he and Forrest Martin are walking the golden streets doing their "community research" for which they were so famous. I have the most fond memories of knowing and loving all of you at Trinity. And I'm sure the Volunteer Christian Builders had a tough time replacing Dick, Curtis and Forrest! Sincerely, Marilyn

Marilyn Martin - November 01, 2014 at 02:54 PM