RALPH LEONARD MATHER

Mr. Ralph Leonard Mather, age 93 of Crockett, passed away Sunday, January 31, 2010 in the East Texas Medical Center-Crockett. Mr. Mather was born December 12, 1916 in Clarksville, Iowa. Mr. Mather was a graduate of Colorado State University receiving a Bachelors Degree in 1940 in Forestry. On November 1, 1940, he married Eugenia Pletka and they moved to Crockett in 1941. In 1945, he served one tour of duty in the United States Army. He worked with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Department from 1941-1951 and then owned and operated Crockett Seed and Supply Store from 1951 to 1961.

Mr. Mather was a Farm Bureau Agent from 1961 until 1981 and retired as agency manager, continuing to serve on the Houston County Farm Bureau Board of Directors. He took pride in Farm Bureau’s membership growth from 203 to 2,800 members at his retirement. Mr. Mather served on the Selective Service Board, Houston County Tax Appraisal Board and was past president of the American Legion. He joined the Crockett Lions Club on March 1, 1963 being a very active member having been very instrumental in the success of the annual Crockett Lions Club Rodeo. He was an active supporter of the Texas Lions Club Crippled Children Camp as well as other Lions Club functions including the annual Lions Club Mop and Broom Sales. He was heavily involved in the Houston County Livestock Show.
Mr. Mather was a member of the First United Methodist Church serving as teacher of the Builder’s Sunday School Class. He also served on the Board of Stewards and a member of the Methodist Men’s Club. Mr. Mather was a cattleman and enjoyed world traveling with his wife, Jean.

Survivors include his wife Eugenia Mather, of Crockett; daughter Linda Walker and husband James D., of New Orleans; son Mike Mather and wife Jeanne, of Chickasha, Okla.; grandchildren Heidi Rice, Elizabeth Walker, Robert Dayton Mather and Jacquelyn Hutzell; great-grandchildren Sydney Walker, Lara Rice, John David Rice, Lana Rice and
Dayton Mather; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral Services for Mr. Ralph Leonard Mather were held Thursday, February 4, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. in the First United Methodist Church with Dr. Jerry House and Dr. Jerry Neff officiating. Interment will follow in the Evergreen Memorial Park.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Texas Lions Camp, P.O. Box 290247, Kerrville, Texas 78029 or First United Methodist Church, Crockett, Texas 75835.

Callaway-Allee Funeral Home