

Clyde Freeman Bates

Clyde Freeman Bates, 72, of Franklin, passed away on Saturday, Dec. 24, 2005.

A native of Macon County, he was the son of the late Boyd Bates and Lola Marie Watts Bates. He was also preceded in death by one sister, Betty Jean Bates; and two brothers, Dennis and Marvin Bates.

He was founder and owner of Bates Concrete and was a U.S. Army veteran. He recently accepted Jesus as his Lord and Savior, the family said.

He is survived by his wife, of 49 years, Mildred Bateman Bates; three children, Timothy Clyde Bates and wife Carol, James Terry Bates and wife Sherri, and Lynda Marie Elliott and husband Dewey "Corky," all of Franklin; three brothers, Ellis Bates of Valdosta, Ga., Nelson and Danny "Chuck" Bates, both of Franklin; two sisters, Winnie Vinson and Joyce Lewis, both of Franklin; seven grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and a number of nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, Dec. 28, at 2 p.m., in the Chapel of Macon Funeral Home. Revs. Benny Bagwell, Doug Moore and Paul Hill officiated.

Burial was in Woodlawn Cemetery with military rites conducted by VFW Post 7339 and American Legion Post 108.

Pallbearers were Timothy Bryan Bates, Jennifer Nicole Allen, Adam Luke Bates, Caleb Aaron Bates, Jeremiah Dillon Bates, Ethan Avery Elliott and Matthew Daniel Elliott.

The family received friends from 7 to 9 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 27, at Macon Funeral Home.

Memorial donations may be made to the Victory Baptist Church Building Fund, 278 Victory Church Rd., Sylva, NC 28779.

Macon Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Online condolences are available by visiting www.maconfuneralhome.com.

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