

Celebrating the Life of Robert Lee “Ralph” Bateman

Mr. Robert Lee Bateman was born on January 4, 1935, in Sumter County, Georgia, to the late Mr. Edd Bateman and the late Mrs. Minnie Dean Bateman. He received his early education through Shady Grove Baptist Church in Sumter County.

At an early age, Mr. Bateman proudly joined the United States Army, where he served his country with honor. Following his military service, he devoted more than 30 years to faithful employment as a fertilizer truck driver with Thompson-Hayward Chemical Company, now known as Nutrien Ag Solutions. After retiring from truck driving, he enjoyed a well-earned season of rest and leisure.

Affectionately known as “Ralph” or “Bate” by family and friends, Mr. Bateman was known for his love of dancing, entertaining others, and listening to music. His joyful spirit and warm presence brought happiness to all who knew him.

On Wednesday, December 24, 2025, Mr. Robert Lee “Ralph” Bateman peacefully departed this life, leaving behind cherished memories for his family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Mr. Edd Bateman and Mrs. Minnie Dean Bateman; his daughter, Ms. Betty Jean Crumbley; his grandchildren, Lyshecka Wilkerson and Demario Davis; and his siblings: Mr. Charles Bateman, Sr., Mr. David Bateman, Mr. Dean Bateman, Ms. Eddie Lee Lewis, Ms. Annie Louise Cobb, and Ms. Mamie Lee Prather.

He leaves to cherish his memory his loving sister, Ms. Daisy Bateman of Americus, Georgia; his grandchildren, Ms. Katrina Crumbley, Ms. Felecia Stafford and Ms. Wakitha Wilkerson, all of Americus, Georgia; a devoted niece, Ms. LaShon Bateman; and a host of nieces, nephews, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, other relatives, and dear friends.

Mr. Bateman’s life was marked by service, love, and joy, and he will be fondly remembered by all whose lives he touched.