

Wilford Mathew Naylor

December 2, 1920 - May 18, 2023

Wilford Naylor, age 102, of Lubbock, passed away peacefully on May 18, 2023. He was born on December 2, 1920 in Bomarton, Texas to John & Lillie Naylor. Wilford graduated from Vernon High School. During his senior year, he helped his 1939 team win the state basketball championship. In 1941, he graduated from Hardin Junior College (now Midwestern State University) in Wichita Falls, Texas.

On February 3, 1943, Wilford joined the Army Air Corps (Air Force). After training at Victory Field in Vernon, Classification School in San Antonio, and final training in Greenville, Wilford went to Ft. Worth Army Air Field to learn to fly the B-24 Liberator bomber. Before going overseas, Wilford married the love of his life, Vera Lovett, on December 9, 1943 in Wichita Falls. During WWII, he flew 35 missions over Germany - 5 in B-24's and 30 in B-17's, the Flying Fortress.

After returning home, Wilford attended Texas Technological College and then worked 40 years for the Lubbock Post Office, retiring as a postal supervisor. He was a devoted husband, father, and beloved grandfather.

He is survived by his daughter, Marilyn (Richard) Mills; son Don; 2 granddaughters, Megan (Lance) Wenzel, and Macie Mills.

He was preceded in death by Vera, his wife of 75 years, his parents, and two siblings.

Wilford was a long-time member of Southside Church of Christ. Always quick to share a war story or assign a witty nickname, he will be remembered and missed by a large extended family, many friends, and caregivers.

Visitation will be Thursday, May 25th from 6:30-8pm at Sanders Funeral Home. Services will be at 1pm on Friday, May 26, 2023 at Southside Church of Christ. Interment will be in Resthaven Memorial Park Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Resthaven Memorial Park

5740 West 19th Street
Lubbock, TX 79416

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY **25**. 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Sanders Funeral Home
1420 Main Street
Lubbock, TX 79401
(806) 763-6433
director@sandersfuneralhome.com
<https://www.sandersfuneralhome.com>

Funeral Service

MAY **26**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM.

Southside Church of Christ

Graveside Service

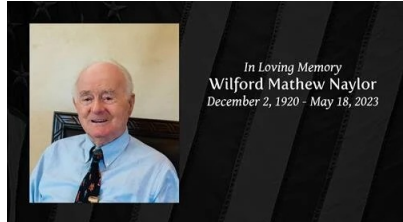
MAY **26**. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Resthaven Memorial Park
5740 West 19th Street
Lubbock, TX 79416

Tribute Wall



“ Sanders Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Wilford Mathew Naylor



Sanders Funeral Home - May 24, 2023 at 04:43 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Graveside Service



Sanders Funeral Home - May 27, 2023 at 12:58 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Funeral Service



Sanders Funeral Home - May 27, 2023 at 12:58 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Wilford Mathew Naylor.*



May 25, 2023 at 09:11 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Wilford Mathew Naylor.

May 24, 2023 at 05:33 AM



“ *We are very sorry for your loss. We know he was a dear dad and grandfather from all of the stories about him we have heard. Our prayer is that you will find comfort from our LORD and those around you. Cherish your many good memories!*
With deepest sympathy, Benny and Linda Haught

Linda Haught - May 23, 2023 at 03:57 PM



“ *Benny Haught Family purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Wilford Mathew Naylor.*



Benny Haught Family - May 23, 2023 at 03:45 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Wilford Mathew Naylor.



May 23, 2023 at 12:17 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Wilford Mathew Naylor.



May 23, 2023 at 10:57 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Wilford Mathew Naylor.



May 22, 2023 at 06:08 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Wilford Mathew Naylor.

May 22, 2023 at 06:08 PM