

## James Guest Baker

James Guest Baker was born in Lockney, Texas, June 3, 1917, to France and Leo M. Watson Baker. The family moved to Lubbock in January 1920 where he graduated from Lubbock High School and Texas Technological College. Mr. Baker served in the US Army Air Corps at Lubbock Army Airfield. At an early age, he and his brother Lennis started a printing business in the back of a garage. Later, in 1931, they opened the Tech



Printing Company, which in 1934 became The Baker Company, carrying basic office supplies and later become the first in Lubbock to sell office furniture. In 1963, the well known Baker Gallery of Fine Art was established. In 1976, the Gallery was invited to display artwork at a White House State Dinner to honor German Chancellor Schmidt. After 65 years in business, The Baker Company was sold and is still in operation today.

Mr. Baker was a member of Kiwanis; an American Red Cross Board member; a United Way committee chairman; and Elder and Chairman of the Board at First Christian Church. He also was an active member of the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce and of the Chamber of Commerce Committee that formed the

Lubbock Cultural Affairs Council, which is now known as The Lubbock Arts Alliance. **He served as the Past President of the West Texas Museum Association and was an honorary member of the West Texas Museum Board of Trustees. Mr. Baker was the recipient of West Texas Museum Association Action Award; the first annual Legacy Award of Lubbock Arts Alliance; and the first Honorarium of Appreciation from the National Exhibits Foundation.**

James Baker married Betty Lindsey Aug. 18, 1940 in Lubbock. She preceded him in death Dec. 25, 1995 after 55 years of marriage. Survivors include his daughter, Candace and husband Steve Anderson of Lubbock; two granddaughters, Lindsey Anderson of Dallas and Melissa Pelsor of Hanover, Indiana; and two great grandchildren, Abigail and Greyson Pelsor.

Memorials are suggested to the First Christian Church Foundation, 2323 Broadway, 79401; the Carillon Foundation, 1717 Norfolk Ave., 79413; or the Museum of TTU Asso., 3301 - 4th St., 79409 .

Interment will be at 1 p.m. in the City of Lubbock Cemetery. Memorial services will be 2 p.m., Thursday, June 7, 2007, in First Christian Church, with the Rev. Dr. Michael Passmore officiating. A visitation will be from 5 - 7 p.m., today, at Rix Funeral Directors, 1901 Broadway.

The family wishes to thank all the gifted caregivers at Carillon House for their care of Mr. Baker.

To send online condolences, please visit [www.rixfd.com](http://www.rixfd.com).

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