



James Alfred Ray

September 6, 1926 - October 10, 2011

James Alfred Ray, 85, passed away Monday, October 10, 2011 in Laurel after a lengthy illness. Graveside services will be held at 10 am Tuesday, October 11 at Hopewell Cemetery in Jasper County. Rev. Arthur Smith will officiate. James Ray was born September 6, 1926 in Grand Junction, TN where, after high school graduation, he entered the Navy during World War II. After the war, Mr. Ray attended the University of Tennessee on the GI Bill where he received a degree in Agricultural Engineering. Mr. Ray spent the majority of his working career with Liberty Mutual Insurance Company as a Safety Engineer where he participated in the testing of seat belts and airbags, among other work projects. Mr. Ray was preceded in death by his first wife, Frances S. Ray; sister, Dorothy R. Anderson; and brother, Howard Ray. He is survived by his wife, Grace J. Ray; sister, Sara R. Mitchell of Southaven; daughters, Becky Ray of Salem, OR and Jackie R. Wells of Newbury Park, CA; step-daughter, Sheree Zyblot of Laurel; and grandson, James Hinshaw of Columbia, MO. The family would like to thank the staff at Care Center of Laurel for their care and kind words during his stay with them. In lieu of flowers, a contribution may be made in his memory to the American Heart Association. Memory Chapel of Laurel is in charge of the arrangements.

Tribute Wall

MW

“ I am Jackie Ray Wells' husband. I first met "Mr. James" in 1976. He was a great man and will be missed.
Marv

Marvin C. Wells - October 14, 2011 at 05:41 PM

JM

“ My family, Annie Miller Graham, Calvin & Arlene Miller Heptinstall, and other family members came to know and love Mr James at Care Center. You are in our thoughts and prayers. God Bless You.

James Miller - October 11, 2011 at 09:28 PM

GK

“ We knew both the Ray Family while Grace was teaching at Sylva Bay Academy and in the antique business in Soso as well. We wish you and your family health and much happiness in the future.

Gwin & Bonnie King - October 10, 2011 at 08:32 PM