



Joe Ned Nester

February 4, 1930 - January 29, 2013

Joe Ned Nester, 82, formerly of Laurel and Soso, died Tuesday, January 29, 2013 at the State Veterans Home in Collins, MS.

Graveside services and burial will be Friday, February 1, 2013, at 9 a.m. at Union Line Cemetery, Soso. The memorial service will follow at 11 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Laurel. Rev. Gene Horton will officiate.

Joe was born February 4, 1930, to Leonard and Mattie Read Nester at Dushau in Jasper County. He graduated from Bay Springs High School, attended Jones Junior College, and received a BS in Geological Engineering from the University of Mississippi. He served in the United States Army during the Korean War.

He worked with Pan American Petroleum as a geologist in Tyler, Texas before returning to Soso to operate a family business and farm. As a young businessman in Soso, he was actively involved in getting the town incorporated and served as an Alderman. He also helped to organize the Soso Water System, serving several years on the Water Board, and the Soso Volunteer Fire Department. After selling the business, he was employed by Jones Junior College. He retired as a Field Director with the MS State Oil and Gas Board. After retirement he was actively engaged in operating a tree farm. Joe was a member of First United Methodist Church, Laurel where he served on the Administrative Board and was a member of the Wesley Sunday School Class. He was also a member of the Soso Masonic Lodge, Soso O.E.S., and the Soso American Legion Post 102.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 55 years, Betty Rasberry Nester, his parents, and a sister-in-law, Brenda Mott Nester.

A loving and devoted husband, father, father-in-law, grandfather and brother, he will be missed by all who knew him. He is survived by his daughter and son-in-law, Lauren and Donnie Zumwalt of Starkville, and their children, Collin Zumwalt of Little Rock, AR, and Casey and Laura Zumwalt of Memphis, TN; and son, Bill Nester of Hot Springs, AR, and his children Caroline, Anna Lauren, Mattie Read, Jonah and Luke Nester; one brother and sister-in-law, Jon and Johncie Nester of Louin; and niece and nephews, Jodi Chancellor, Bryce Nester and Todd Nester.

Grandsons, nephews, Sandy Stephens and Tommy Miller will serve as pallbearers. Honorary pallbearers will be Todd Chancellor, Rickey Hill, Howard Robertson, Dexter Parker, Danny Nelson, Charles Pendarvis, David Miller, Broadmoor neighbors, and the Wesley Sunday School Class.

In lieu of flowers the family requests memorials be made to First United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 956. Laurel, MS 39441, or Veterans Outreach, 15 Pritchett Drive, Collins, MS 39428.

Visitation will be held from 5 until 8 p.m. Thursday, January 31, 2013 at Memory Chapel of Laurel which is in charge of the arrangements.

Tribute Wall

PH

“ Lauren ,
Sorry to hear of your fathers passing . May God comfort you
through these sad times . You are in my thoughts & prayers .

Patricia McNeill Hinton - February 01, 2013 at 09:51 AM

DF

“ Lauren and Bill, Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your
families during this time. May your strong faith and sweet memories
sustain you.

Denson Hilbun and Family - January 31, 2013 at 08:27 PM

FW

“ Bill, We want you to know you are in our thoughts and prayers,
lifting you and your children up for comfort and encouragement to
the Great Healer. Frank & Pam

Frank & Pam Warren - January 31, 2013 at 04:17 PM

HL

“ Lauren and family, please know that you are all in my thoughts and
prayers during this time of loss. Joe was a person I respected and
cared for so much. During the years I was in private practice, I
represented Coho Resources before the MSO&GB. Joe was always
such a great help to me and my clients. No one could have had a
better husband, father and friend than Joe Nester. I shall miss him
and always cherish his memory.

Sincerely,
Howard Leach

howard leach - January 31, 2013 at 03:55 PM

SC

“ *To Joe Nester Family:
I am so sorry to read about his death. I worked at the Oil and Gas Board with Joe. I loved him very much. Joe and my office was across from each other and we talked about family all the time and he would wear a yellow sweater and I would always tell him he looked sexy in it. Joe gave me tips on how to cook. I would come to Laurel and visit him and Ms. Bettye. I always looked forward to Christmas to get a beautiful Christmas card from them. It sadden me to read about Joe. I will keep your family in my prayers.*

Sue Castillo - January 31, 2013 at 12:25 PM

LI

“ *Lauren & Family: I just found out about the loss of your Dad and I wanted to convey my deepest sympathy. No matter what the prognostication, age or infirmity it is always very difficult to loose a parent and particularly your dear, wonderful Father. I had a privilage of knowing your Mom and Dad and always loved both of them. I also had a privilage of working with Joe and we all missed him when he left. We are thinking of you and remembering you, your Family and Joe in prayer in this difficult time. Please let me know if there is anything we might do for you in this time of sorrow. We will be there tomorooow for the funeral. Sincerely, Lisa*

lisa ivshin - January 31, 2013 at 10:02 AM

MB

“ *To Jon Nester: So sorry to hear about Joe. I remember him as a good person.*

Mary Pugh Bethea - January 30, 2013 at 05:01 PM

PG

“ *Your dad was a sweet man and we are praying for each and everyone of you. May you have God's peace knowing your dad is home with the Lord. Always Paula*

Paula and Danny Graham - January 30, 2013 at 02:44 PM