



Noel Marion Sommers

August 3, 1925 - April 23, 2011

Noel Marion Sommers, born August 3, 1925, died Saturday, April 23, 2011. Funeral services will be held at 11:30 am Wednesday, April 27, 2011, at Memory Chapel with burial in Hickory Grove Cemetery. Rev. David Grayson will officiate. He was born in Laurel, MS to Noel and Burah Sommers. He never married and is survived by a brother, Joe Sommers of Baton Rouge, LA and two sisters, Lanelle Grayson and Elizabeth Odom (Mel) all of Laurel. He was preceded in death by his parents, Noel McRae Sommers and Burah Lewis Sommers and brothers, Jack, Ray, and Charles Sommers. Marion, as he is known to family members, was truly a "Man for all Seasons". During World War II, he enlisted for active duty in the U. S. Navy and while serving on the USS Curtiss (AV-4) his ship was hit by a Japanese Kamikaze attack. Following discharge from the Navy he once again entered active military service during the Korean conflict; this time with the Army Paratroopers from Fort Bragg. After being honorably discharged from the Army, he then worked in various capacities including optometry but was primarily employed as a skilled welder by various shipyards engaged in the repairing of vessels in dry dock as well as the construction of new ships. Marion loved his family and friends and enjoyed talking about historical events. He was of the Baptist faith and openly confessed that he had accepted Jesus as his Lord and Savior. Therefore, while we celebrate his homecoming to Heaven today, he is sorely missed by those remaining here who love and miss him. Pallbearers will be Charles Bryant, Buddy Holifield, Jimmy Martin, B. A. Riser, Gene Fairchild and

Doug Boler. Honorary pallbearers are John P. Padgett and Robert Polson. Visitation will be held from 9:30 am until service time on Wednesday at Memory Chapel of Laurel which is in charge of the arrangements.