



John Ernest Nichols

March 8, 1921 - August 3, 2015

John Ernest Nichols, 94, formerly of Rock Hill, died on Monday, August 3, 2015.

Born March 8, 1921, he was a long-time member of Woodland United Methodist Church in Rock Hill, SC, he was the son of the late Rufus Joab and Susan Orr Nichols. He served as Navy Seaman First Class in WWII and was life member of Irving Southworth Masonic Lodge #350, Lyman, S.C.

He was predeceased by his wife of 74 years, Mae Bess Nichols; one son, John Nichols; brothers Herbert Nichols, Rufus "Nick" Nichols and Harold Nichols.

Surviving are four sisters, Ruby Noland, Earline Cook, Jackie Nichols and Christine Nichols (Charlie) and many nieces, nephews and friends.

Funeral services will be held 11:30 a.m. Thursday at Wood Mortuary conducted by Pastor Eddie Usher. Burial will be private.

Visitation will be held 10:00-11:00 a.m. Thursday at Wood Mortuary.

The families are at their respective homes.

Memorials may be made to Meals on Wheels, 15 Oregon Street, Greenville SC 29605 or Caris Hospice, Foundation, 111 Smith Hines Road, Suite D, Greenville, SC 29607.

Online condolences may be made at www.thewoodmortuary.com

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 6. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

The Wood Mortuary, Inc.
300 West Poinsett Street
Greer, SC 29650
(864) 877-3351
woodmortuary@bellsouth.net

Service

AUG 6. 11:30 AM (ET)

THE WOOD MORTUARY CHAPEL
300 West Poinsett Street
Greer, SC 29650
(864) 877-3351
woodmortuary@bellsouth.net

Tribute Wall

AW

“ SO SORRY TO SEE WHERE ERNEST PASSED.
LOVE & PRAYERS, LUCINDA, JANE, & AUDREA(GATES)
(COUSINS OF MAE BESS)

AUDREA WATSON - August 05, 2015 at 01:29 PM

MS

“ I was so saddened to hear this morning of Ernie's passing, but somewhat not surprised for we all knew life was not the same for him without his Mae Bess. Having grown up at Woodland United Methodist Church, I first knew the Nichols when I was a child because Ernie sang in my mother's choir. I still remember where he sat in the choir loft and I can also still hear the choir members chuckle when Mom would affectionately call him, "Ernestine." :) Later, I would know him as my employer because I worked for the Nichols at Merle Norman. One of the simple lessons he taught us about running a business was to always keep the bills in the cash register straight and to always have the faces on the bills facing in the same direction. To this day, I keep any cash I have in my wallet straight and organized and all of the bills have to face the same way! The lessons I learned about retailing from working for the Nichols were the foundation for my teaching career in Marketing Education. More importantly, Mae Bess and Ernie taught their employees the meaning of professionalism. As employers, they were very good to their Merle Girls and oh, how we loved them so.

Ernie's birthday is March 8 and mine is March 9. For years and years, we exchanged birthday cards and this morning, those cards just became treasures to me. I will miss sending him a card each year, but will always remember him every March 8th.

Ernie and Mae Bess lived their lives for the Lord and they never wavered in their faith. They so loved their Lord and their church. I take comfort in knowing that Ernie, Mae Bess and John are once again together and I am very grateful for having the Nichols in my life.

Martha Jean (Pursley) Starnes

Martha Jean Starnes - August 05, 2015 at 06:01 AM