



Merle State

August 30, 1921 - September 30, 2010

Heading: Merle F. State (Veteran)

Dateline: Greer

Celebrating the life of Merle Franklin State who was born in Gault, Iowa August 30, 1921 and passed away September 30, 2010.

He is honored by his present wife Anne State of the home, his four sons, Stephen (Karen) State of Greenville, David State of Simpsonville, Glen (Kim) State of Greer, John (Vickie) State of Boiling Springs; twelve grandchildren, seventeen great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

He served in the U.S. Army during WWII as a drill instructor. Stationed in New Orleans, he met and married Rachel Roy also serving in the Army as a WAC. They moved to Iowa and raised a family of four sons before moving to Greer in 1966. His wife Rachel predeceased him in October 1999. He said that God gave him a mission to feed the hungry. Through his hard work, determination and help from many others the Greer Soup Kitchen was founded. It now serves over 150 people daily from its own building. The mayor of Greer has proclaimed Merle State Day on several occasions and a walk is held for the Greer Soup Kitchen in his honor every year in November. Praise be to God for the life of Merle State.

The family is at the home of Glen State, 201 Scarborough Drive, Greer.

Visitation will be held 2:00-3:30 p.m. Sunday at Memorial United Methodist Church.

Funeral services will follow at 4:00 p.m. Sunday at Memorial United Methodist

Church, conducted by Rev. Arthur Holt, Rev. John Rush and Rev. George Strait. Burial will be a private family service at the gravesite.

Honorary escort will be the Ballenger-Duncan Sunday School Class.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Greer Soup Kitchen of the Daily Bread Ministries, P.O. Box 2344, Greer, SC 29652.

Online condolences may be made at www.thewoodmortuary.com

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 3. 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM (ET)

Memorial United Methodist Church
201 N. Main St.
Greer, SC

Service

OCT 3. 4:00 PM (ET)

Memorial United Methodist Church
201 N. Main St.
Greer, SC

Tribute Wall



“ I am so very sorry for your great loss. The first time I met Merle I knew he was special and I felt he, Anne and I were old pals even though we'd just met. I, too, will miss him. He was one of those rare people who made you feel good just seeing him. Anne, my prayers are with you at this sad time.##imported-begin##Roxie T. Kincannon##imported-end##

October 26, 2010 at 11:56 AM



“ Steve,Dave,Glen,John and Family Our thoughts and prayers are with each of you. Merle was a genuinely fine person who was such a positive inspiration to me...and many other lives. May God bless each of you. sincerely, Steve Church and family##imported-begin##Steve and Noel Church##imported-end##

October 08, 2010 at 08:07 AM



“ Ann and family, My sincere sympathy on your loss of Merle. He added much to many people's lives. May you find the Lord's strength at this time. Isaiah 41:10.##imported-begin##Debbie Eubanks##imported-end##

October 05, 2010 at 05:14 PM



“ Our sympathy to Anne and Steve, Dave, Glenn and John.

Arthur Hill

Suzy Hill

Kathleen Hill##imported-begin##Arthur Hill##imported-end##

October 03, 2010 at 01:33 PM



“ *Ann and family :*
We are so very sorry for your loss. Please call if we can do anything for you Our thoughts and prays are with you .##imported-begin##Dan and Janet Porter##imported-end##

October 02, 2010 at 10:22 PM