Ray Wilson

Alton | Monday, February 13 2017

Ray L. Wilson, 90, died at 1:55 p.m. Sunday, February 12, 2017 at his home in Alton. Born December 2, 1926 in Jasper, Alabama, he was the son of Hewitt and Cora (Blackwell) Wilson. Mr. Wilson served in the U.S. military for 21 years beginning with the Navy and then transferring to the Army as a paratrooper and an MP during the Korean War. He was an avid follower of professional football and baseball and loved playing cards. On May 24, 1984 he married Viola Autery in Wood River. She survives. Also surviving are two daughters, Sherry Cobb (Don) of Palmyra, TN, and Terry Haskell (Ron) of Centerville, MO, three step sons, Gary Autery (Linda) of Brighton, Lonnie Autery of Alton, Robert Kempfer (Margie) of Pensacola, FL, six grandchildren, Billy (Kelly) Haskell, Scott (Luci Janu) Haskell, Mike (Kim) Haskell, John (Kami) Haskell, Louie (Misty) Laftik, and Leia (Josh) Welk, 13 great grandchildren; Luden, Eva, Goldie, Makalia, Quentin, Dakota, Kaden, Trendon, and Zofia Haskell, L J Laftik, Emry, Evan, and Kayley Welk, four step grandchildren, James (Lindee) Autery, Jason (Andrea) Autery, Nicholas Autery, Emily (Jason) Thatcher and seven additional step grandchildren, seven step great grandchildren, Alyssa, Max, Ava, Brock, and Kayden Autery, and Jackson and Logan Thatcher, and a brother, Charles Wilson of Florida. Also surviving are three nephews, Matt and Mike Barber and Tim Wilson, and a niece, Linda Wilson. Along with his parents, he was preceded in death by a step son, James Kempfer, a step daughter, Mary Bosworth, two step grandsons, four brothers, Burvel, Earvel, Coy and Jack Wilson and a sister, Shirley Ann Barber. Visitation will be from 4:00 p.m. until time of funeral service at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, February 15, 2017 at Gent Funeral Home in Alton. Burial will be at 1:00 p.m. Thursday, February 16, 2017 at Rose Lawn Memory Gardens in Bethalto. Memorials may be made to the 5A's Animal Shelter. Online guestbook and information may be found at www.gentfuneralhome.com