

Frank Jolly

Jerseyville | Thursday, December 23 2010

Frank Mabry Jolly, 90, died at 11:26 p.m., Thursday, December 23, 2010 at his residence after being diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in November.

He was born in Gilbert, La. on April 23, 1920, the son of the late Henry Shepherd and Mary Ethel (Williams) Jolly.



As a young man, Frank grew up in Louisiana where he worked in the cotton fields and participated in California with the Civilian Conservation Corps. In 1952, he and his wife moved their family to Jerseyville, where they felt their children could have a better life. Here he worked in numerous capacities always striving to better himself and provide for his family. He began working at Olin-Matheson, and had stints at Laclede Steel, Standard Oil, Great Plains Gas in Bethalto, Alton Brick Company, and retired in 1982 as a Maintenance Supervisor from American Can Company in Alton after 14 years of service.

He married the former Elizabeth McGraw on March 14, 1941 in Chase, La, and together they shared 65 years together and the joys of raising their four children as a strong family unit. After their retirement they moved back to Louisiana where they could enjoy good fishing, and moved back to Jerseyville for good in 1990. where many happy memories were created with family, church friends. Elizabeth passed away on May 2, 2006.

Frank & Elizabeth were devout not only to their family but to their church as well. He was instrumental in the formation of not only the Timewell Baptist Church in Zwolle, La., but also the State Street Baptist Church in Jerseyville, and the Otterville Baptist

Church. He was ordained a deacon in June of 1958 by J.D. Wallace, was inducted into the Ordination to the Gospel Ministry in Feb. 1958 by Vale Walkington at the Otterville Baptist Church. He currently was a member of the First Baptist Church in Jerseyville, where he was a member of the Men's Fellowship, and served many years as a deacon, becoming an Honorary Deacon in November of this year.

Surviving are a son, Jerry Jolly, and his partner, Dallas Nichols Jr. of Alton; two daughters & sons in law, Sherry & Gary Williams of rural Dow, and Kathryn & Robert Albrect of rural Jerseyville; a daughter in law, Patricia Jolly of Palestine, Tx.; eight grandchildren & their spouses, Marvin & Jamie Jolly of Plano, Tx., Dr. Darin & Kara Jolly of Maybank, Tx., Sara & Kevin Berghoff of Grafton, Matthew & Ronda Jolly of Jerseyville, Christopher & Jen Albrecht of Rochester, Mn., Nathan & Michelle Williams of rural Dow, Amanda Crum of Godfrey, and Craig & Rebecca Albrecht of Collinsville; 13 Great Grandchildren, Jeffrey, Jacob, Julia, Elizabeth, Aaron, McKenzie, Megan, Carter, Ellie, Kennedy Elizabeth, Hunter, Lucas & Harrison. He is also survived by a close friend & companion, Bernice Embley of Jerseyville, and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, his son, Melvyn Jolly on Nov. 13, 1993; three sisters, Ona Mae Jones, Justine Newman, and Ouida Brady; and two brothers, Joe Everett Jolly, and Frank's twin brother, Henry Jolly.

Visitation will be from 4 to 8 p.m. Thursday at the Crawford Funeral Home in Jerseyville, where funeral services will be conducted at 10:30 a.m. Friday. Services will be conducted by his family members, assisted by Dr. Gilbert Sanders.

Burial will be in the Oak Grove Cemetery in Jerseyville.

In honor of both Frank & Elizabeths strong desire to pursue and value education, memorials may be given to the Isabela Grimes Educational Fund in care of the funeral home.