



Ira J. Hudson III

February 16, 1926 - December 21, 2018

Ira John Hudson III, 92, a Southern Illinois community and business leader, died December 21 at the Lutheran Home, Cape Girardeau, Missouri.

Mr. Hudson was born Feb. 16, 1926, in Riverview, Florida to I.J. Hudson Jr. and Lucille McCown Hudson, but he resided most of his life in Mound City, IL.

He was a partner in I.J. Hudson Jr. & Sons, which consisted of Mr. Hudson, his father and his brother, Robert Hudson. The partnership's main business was a grain storage facility in Mounds, IL. The grain elevator was later sold to Tabor Grain Co. He was also involved in the day to day operations of Hudson Warehouses, Inc., of Cairo, IL.

In 1977 the partnership started planning and construction of a terminal on the Ohio River at Mound City to transferring bulk commodities from rail or truck to barge. A contract was entered into between the ICG Railroad and A.E. Staley Meg. Co. to use the terminal. The facility was operated by Hudson Industries, of which Mr. Hudson was a partner. It was later sold to Bulk Service Corp.

Mr. Hudson was president in 1981 of Southern Illinois, Inc., which promotes economic development in the region. He was chairman of the board the following year. He was also Governor, District 651, Rotary International during 1973-74. During his life, he also was president of the Pulaski-Alexander

Development Corp., the Cairo Chamber of Commerce, the Cairo Rotary Club in which he was a Paul Harris Fellow; executive board, Egyptian Council Boy Scouts of America, Commissioner of the Pulaski Co. Housing Authority, a member of the Cairo Elks Lodge and Egyptian Country Club. In 1986 he received the Geoffrey Hughes Southern Illinois Citizen of the Year Award. He was a former member of the United Church of Christ, Mounds, IL.

A graduate of Mound City Community High School, Mr. Hudson graduated from the University of South Carolina, with degrees in naval science and economics. He was commissioned in 1947, saw destroyer duty in the Pacific fleet, and served as General Manager, Guam Bus Lines, which was under naval government.

He and the former Gloria Hayden, of Villa Ridge, IL., were married for 65 years until her passing in 2012.

Survivors include a son, I.J. (Jan) Hudson, Darnestown, Md., a daughter, Cherri (Jeffrey) Hudson-Brown, Las Cruces, NM; Grandchildren, Erin (Chris) Malone, Charlotte, NC; Bart (Claire) Hudson, Damascus, Md., Hayley Brown, Houston, TX., and Ira Joseph (Lars) Brown, State College, Pa. Great grandchildren, Ben and Nate Malone, Charlotte, NC, and Jake and Luke Hudson, Damascus, Md. He also survived by nieces and nephews and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his brother, and a son in infancy.

Visitation will be 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, December 26, 2018 at Crain Funeral Home in Cairo with the funeral service to follow at 11:30 a.m. Rev. Buddy Walls will be officiating. Burial will follow at the National Cemetery, Mound City, IL with military honors by area veterans and the Navy Funeral Honors Team.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to organizations such as Rotary, the Elks and others that promote the welfare of their communities.

Cemetery Details

Mound City National Cemetery

Mound City, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 26. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

Crain Funeral Home - Cairo
4815 Sycamore
Cairo, IL 62914
(618) 734-4291
crain@crainsonline.com

Service

DEC 26. 11:30 AM (CT)

Crain Funeral Home - Cairo
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Cairo, IL 62914
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Tribute Wall



“ *Ira J. Hudson III*

October 23, 2023 at 06:26 AM