



James L. Mathis

May 16, 1925 - May 10, 2015

James L. Mathis, 89, of Murphysboro, passed away at 4:10 p.m. Sunday, May 10, 2015, at Memorial Hospital in Carbondale.

James was born on May 16, 1925, in Bolivar, Tennessee, to Lee Howard Mathis and Gertrude (Rolland) Mathis.

He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II, and he was stationed in Sipan.

Mr. Mathis was a very active member of the First Baptist Church in Murphysboro, where he had participated many years delivering Meals on Wheels.

Jim had worked for thirty five years for the G, M, & O Railroad and then later the Illinois Central Railroad as a machine operator.

He married Anna Mae Riggio on September 18, 1969, in Bolivar, Tennessee, and she preceded him in death on March 1, 1996.

Survivors include one son and daughter in law Glenn and Carole Wilcox of Murphysboro;

four grandchildren Deidre "Dee" Dare and her husband Earl Dare of Belleville, Pat Webb and his wife LaJean Webb of Elk Horn, Iowa, Steve Wilcox and his wife Brandi Wilcox of Murphysboro, and Lisa Rametta and her husband Adam Rametta of Delano, MN;

eight great grandchildren Jamie Ryckman and her husband Nick Ryckman of Lebanon, Nicholas Dare of Belleville, Joslyn webb of Elk Horn, Iowa, Colten Wilcox, Hunter Wilcox, and Spencer Wilcox of Murphysboro, Emma Rametta of Delano, MN, and Koldi Keipp;

one half brother James Robert Mathis of Whitfield, TN; and five half sisters;

one brother in law Austin Riggio, and two sister in laws Nancy Pierce and Dorothy Riggio; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by one daughter Mary Lou Webb on July 23, 2013, one grandson Bradley Wilcox, two brothers Junior and L. G. Mathis, and his parents.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, May 13, 2015, at Pettett Funeral Home with Rev. Shaker Samuel officiating and burial at Pleasant Grove Memorial Park with military services conducted by the Paul Stout American Legion Post # 127. Friends may call from 9 to 11 a.m. Wednesday at the funeral home. For more information, please visit www.pettettfuneralhome.com.

Tribute Wall



“ *James L. Mathis*

October 23, 2023 at 06:26 AM



“ *Jim was a good friend, I met Jim in 1966 when I went to work for the GM&O RR. we worked together for several years as machine operators. The first time I met him he said you look like a beaver to me and nicknamed me and it stuck for 30 plus years.*

Phil Boleyn - May 13, 2015 at 05:07 PM