



## Paul D. Burkey

November 21, 1922 - August 2, 2015

Paul D. Burkey, 92, formerly of Murphysboro, went to be with the Lord on Sunday morning August 2, 2015, at his residence in Aiken, South Carolina.

Paul was born on November 21, 1922, in Jackson County, Illinois, to John Lester Burkey and Ada Leona (Leach) Burkey.

He was in the U.S. Air Force for 21 ½ years serving during both World War II and the Korean Conflict. He was an aeronautical teacher and mechanic for 12 years in the Air Force and for 12 years with SIU-Carbondale.

Mr. Burkey was a member and former deacon of Elm Street Baptist Church in Murphysboro and he was very active in the Jail Ministry at the Jackson County Jail in Murphysboro. He was a member of the Murphysboro Men's Bible Study Group.

He was a member of the Lion's Club, a member of a local E.A.A. Club, a member of the D.A.V. Chapter # 69, and V.F.W. Post # 2605 of Carbondale.

Paul married Bernice Cherry on February 3, 1943, in Madison, Tennessee, and she survives.

Other survivors include three children DeAnn Lineberry of Richmond, VA,

Richard A. Burkey and his wife Wanda Burkey of Aiken, SC, and Margaret Jane Burkey of Johnston City, IL;

three grandchildren Michael Burkey and his wife Christine Burkey, Stephanie Horsley and her husband Barry Horsley, and Justin Lineberry;

two step grandchildren Beth Simmons and her husband Jason Simmons and Ronald Henderson;

five great grandchildren Kylie Burkey, Grace Plett, Arden Plett, Ada Burkey and Gibson Burkey;

two step great grandchildren Alexis Simmons and Naomi Simmons;

and one brother Joe Burkey of Murphysboro.

He was preceded in death by one brother Wayne Burkey, one sister Ruth Haury, and his parents.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, August 8, 2015, at Pettett Funeral Home with Rev. Charles Allen officiating and burial at Pleasant Grove Memorial Park. Friends may call from 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday at the funeral home. Memorials may be made to Elm Street Baptist Church in Murphysboro, or Tidewater Hospice, 2858 Sunset Blvd, West Columbia, SC 29169. For more information, please visit [www.pettettfuneralhome.com](http://www.pettettfuneralhome.com).

# Tribute Wall



“ *Paul D. Burkey*

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October 23, 2023 at 06:26 AM

“ I, Dennis T. Lowry, worked with Paul Burkey in the Jail Ministry at Elm Street Baptist Church in Murphysboro. In his honor and his memory I have written a song called "The Old Saint" or "The Ballad of Paul Burkey".

*1. The old saint was growing weaker,  
He knew his time on earth was short.  
He had walked with God for many years,  
And served Him with all his heart.  
The old saint said his prayers to God each night,  
And he prayed with all his might.  
"Lord, when I close my eyes in sleep tonight,  
May they open. . . in your city of light."*

*2. The old saint awoke each morning,  
Disappointment was in his heart.  
"Lord, You didn't call me home last night,  
So I will serve you again today."  
But one day the Lord decided,  
"Let's call this old saint home."  
So God closed his eyes one final time,  
Then they opened...in the city of light.*

*3. We all face a divine appointment,  
And it's one we can't escape.  
One day our heart will beat its last,  
And our eyes will close in death.  
When your eyes close that final time, my friend,  
Will Jesus tell you, "Welcome home"?  
Or will you hear the guilty verdict,*

*"The lake of fire...is your new home"*

*4. If the old saint could talk with you today,  
I know what he would say.*

*"Jesus gave His life for your sins, my friend,  
But you must be born again."*

*If the old saint could talk with you today,  
I know what he would say.*

*"Jesus gave His life for your sins, my friend,  
But you must be...born...again..."*

*(8 August 2015)*

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**Dennis T. Lowry** - August 21, 2015 at 04:59 PM

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“*Sending my condolences to the Burkey family. Mr. Burkey was a quiet, friendly soul to me in my growing up days when Mr and Mrs Burkey attended University Baptist Church in Carbondale IL years ago. He was bold in his speaking and respected. Keep his legacy alive in your hearts, souls, and minds. Cherish those memories. Heaven just got blessed more and more. Hugs and prayers....Karen McNeely McMinn*

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**Karen McMinn** - August 07, 2015 at 08:12 AM