



Thomas R. Jr. Ray

January 1, 2009

Thomas R. Ray Jr., age 82, of Sunrise Beach, formerly of Independence, passed away Thursday, January 1, 2009, at the Laurie Care Center. He was born in Parsons, Kansas, the son of the late Thomas Ray Sr. and Bertha Beck Ray on July 6, 1926.

He spent his early years in El Dorado Springs, Missouri, and graduated from high school there in 1943. He served in the Army Air Corps in WWII, and was a member of the American Legion Zack Wheat Post 624 in Sunrise Beach. He was also a member of the Masonic Lodge #76 of Independence, a life member of the VFW 5923 in Camdenton, a member of the Scottish Rite in Independence, and a member of the Ararat Shrine in Kansas City, Missouri.

In 1988, he retired from the General Motors Leeds Plant after 28 ½ years and moved to the Lake of the Ozarks full time in 1990.

He enjoyed attending the First Baptist Church in Sunrise Beach, and the fellowship found there. He also enjoyed going to the Westside Senior Center in Laurie. He loved his pals, his dog Fido, and his cat, Bazzle, who will miss him very much.

Tom leaves his wife, Roberta of 34 years, one son and four daughters from a previous marriage, Robert Ray and wife Donna of Port St. Joe, Florida,

Beverly Wehner and husband Pete of Pleasant Hill, Missouri, Linda Beavert of Benton, Arkansas, Jan Willis and husband Neil of Lee's Summit, Missouri, and Bren Short of Lee's Summit, Missouri; eleven grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; nieces, nephews, and many friends. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two brothers and four sisters.

A memorial visitation will be held from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., Sunday, January 4, at the Kidwell-Garber Laurie/Sunrise Beach Chapel. Inurnment will be held at a later date in the Virgil City Cemetery in Cedar County, Missouri. Memorial contributions are suggested to the Westside Senior Center in Laurie. Expressions of sympathy may be left online at www.kidwellgarber.com. Arrangements are under the direction of the Kidwell-Garber Laurie/Sunrise Beach Chapel.