



Ernest Lee Blankenship

July 23, 1930 - November 14, 2001

Funeral services for Ernest Lee Blankenship will be held Friday, November 16, 2001 at 1:30pm at the First Baptist Church of Lexington with Dr. Hoyt Wilson and Rev. Everett Martin officiating. Interment will follow in the New Hope Cemetery in the Shady Hill Community near Lexington. Mr. Blankenship, 71, a longtime Lexington Barber, died suddenly Wednesday, November 14 while working on his farm. He was a devoted member of the First Baptist Church of Lexington and the Jack Hay Sunday School Class. Prior to becoming a barber, he was a former officer with the Lexington Police and Henderson County Sheriff's Department, and a past employee of the State Forestry Division. He was an Army veteran of the Korean War and a member of the Tennessee Army National Guard. His hobbies included horses and coon hunting. Survivors include his wife of 42 years, Nancy Reed Blankenship; two sons, Ernest Reed Blankenship and Edwin Lee Blankenship of Lexington; two sisters, Mrs. Helen Wooley and Mrs. Margaret Leffel of Lexington; two brothers J. D. Blankenship of Memphis and Glen Blankenship of Oklahoma; two grandchildren, Dylan Reed Blankenship and Ashley Danielle Brunsvold of Jackson. He was preceded in death by his brother, Mr. Clayton Blankenship. Pallbearers to serve will be Tracy Tyler, Jimmy Harris, Tim Blankenship, John Blankenship, Bruce Westbrook, Mike Burbee, Scott Horner, and Chris Bunch. In lieu of flowers the family requests donations be made to the American Heart Association.