



Obituary

Born: Sunday, September 14, 1924

Died: Wednesday, November 21, 2018

Mr. Bernard Lamar Thornton, age 94, of Patterson, died early Wednesday morning (11/21/18) at his residence following an extended illness.

Born September 14, 1924 in Baxley, he was a son of the late Tommie and Alma Milikin Thornton. He was a veteran, serving in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II as a Heavy Automotive Equipment Operator. He lived most of his life in Pierce County where he was a longtime farmer. He was a longtime, faithful member of Patterson United Methodist Church, serving on many committees and was the oldest living member of the church. He was also a former member of the Patterson Lions Club.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by 3 great grandchildren; 3 brothers, Robert Thornton, Bill Thornton, and James Thornton; and a brother-in-law, J.L. Lee.

Survivors include his wife of nearly 72 years, Willie Mae Crosby Thornton of Patterson; 2 daughters and sons-in-law, Jan and Dwight Strickland of Lizella, GA and Melinda and Mike Monroe of Waycross; 4 grandchildren, Melissa Spillers (husband Donald) of Roberta, Stephanie Grantham (Rev. Chip) of Tifton, Stephen Strickland (wife Brandy) of Lizella, Lindy Monroe Tisdell (husband Matt) of Smyrna; 7 great grandchildren; 3 great-great grandchildren; 2 sisters, Helen Thornton Lee of Bristol and Hazel Bowen (husband Sonny) of Dublin; 1 brother, T.J. Thornton (wife Rocea) Jacksonville, FL; 2 sisters-in-law, Eleanor Thornton and Martha Thornton, both of Bristol; special nieces, Elizabeth Henry of Green Cove Springs, FL and Kay Lane of Blackshear; a dedicated friend who showed love and support during his illness, Vickie Anderson of Patterson; and several nieces, nephews, and other relatives and friends.

A funeral service will take place Saturday (11/24/18) at 11 a.m. in the chapel of Hart Funeral Home. Burial will follow in Oakland Cemetery in Waycross.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home on Saturday one hour prior to the service.

The family requests all members of Patterson United Methodist Church to serve as honorary pallbearers. Please be at the funeral home by 10:30 a.m.

Special thanks to Dr. Alan Morton and his staff for years of dedicated service and also to the nurses and staff of Hospice Satilla.

Service Summary

Visitation

10:00 AM to 11:00 AM, Sat Nov 24, 2018

Hart Funeral Home

210 Johnson Street
Blackshear, GA 31516

Funeral Service

11:00 AM Sat Nov 24, 2018

Hart Funeral Home Chapel

210 Johnson Street
Blackshear, GA 31516

Sympathy may be expressed by signing online at www.hartfh.com.

Hart Funeral Home of Blackshear is in charge of arrangements.