



George L Coaker

April 20, 1920 - January 29, 2019

George Littleton Coaker of Foley, Alabama, died on January 29th, 2019. He was 98 years old.

The youngest of 8 children, he was born in Washington County, Alabama, and moved to Foley as a young child with his mother, Frances. He was a 1939 alumnus of Foley High School. Joining the US Navy in WWII, he served as a Pharmacist's Mate on the USS Hornet, and was awarded a medal for his heroic actions after that ship sank in the Pacific during 1942's Battle of Santa Cruz Islands.

He was transferred to New Orleans where he met his wife, Ruth Stauffer Coaker, while she served as a nurse in the service. They married in 1943 and were married for 54 years before her death. After the war ended, they traveled to Ruth's home state of Ohio, where George used his GI Bill to first graduate college, then pharmacy school at Ohio Northern University.

While in Ohio, George and Ruth had two daughters: Karen Marie, (Gudgen) born in 1945—who sadly passed in 2000, and Ruth Ann (Hiebl) born in 1949—who survives him. Both daughters earned their Master's Degrees and became educators. Karen married Richard Gudgen, originally of Pittsburg, Kansas in 1967, then resided near Tampa, Florida. And Ruth Ann married Donald Hiebl, originally of Kansas City, Missouri in 1977, then resided in Foley, Alabama. The two women gave George and Ruth two granddaughters: Amy Abbott Gudgen, born in 1976, and Hayley Ruth Hiebl, born in 1980. George was hired by Eli Lilly Pharmaceuticals and spent his entire career with

them, working as a Sales Manager for them in 4 states. He retired from the company in 1979. Upon his retirement, George and Ruth moved back to Baldwin County, settling in Gulf Shores, where they lived for 20 years. Following Ruth's passing in 1998, he moved the few miles north back to his childhood hometown. He married his wife, Sandra Hutchinson Coaker in late 2000. They lived in Foley throughout their marriage and attended Foley United Methodist Church. She survives him.

George lived out his last years at the William F. Green Veteran's Home in Bay Minette, Alabama, where he died peacefully.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that gifts be made to the William F. Green Activities Fund.

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." Matthew 11:28-30.

Arrangements are pending

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB **19**. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Foley United Methodist Church
915 North Pine Street
Foley, AL 36535

Memorial Service

FEB **19**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Foley United Methodist Church
915 North Pine Street
Foley, AL 36535