



Joseph Wesley Ethridge III

October 16, 2024 - September 22, 2012

Joseph Wesley Ethridge III
Charleston, IL-Joseph Wesley Ethridge III, age 87, of Charleston, IL, passed away at 10:15 p.m., Saturday, September 22, 2012, at his residence.

The funeral service in his honor will begin at 12:00 p.m., Thursday, September 27, 2012, at Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home, 1200 Wabash Avenue, Mattoon, IL, 61938. Reverend Robert Clark will officiate. Interment will be in Rest Haven Memorial Gardens with military rites conducted by the Charleston VFW Post 1592. Visitation will be held Thursday, from 10:00 a.m., until the service begins. Masonic rites will begin at 9:45 a.m.

Born October 16, 1924, in Springfield, IL, Joseph was the son of Joseph Wesley II and Frieda Marie (Wright) Ethridge. He married Juanita June Weston on November 25, 1944, in Rantoul, IL. She survives. Other survivors include their children, Beverly Jo Phelps of Effingham, IL, Becky Diane Hill and husband Jim of Springfield, IL, Joseph Wesley Ethridge IV, and wife Karen of Charleston, IL, and Frank Edward Smith and wife Cathy of Neoga, IL; four brothers, Floyd Ethridge and wife Kathrine of Corpus Christi, TX, David Ethridge and wife Jonie of East Lansing, MI, Gene Ethridge and wife Shirley of Homer, IL, and Richard Ethridge and wife Nancy of Plainfield, IL; nine grandchildren; twenty-two great grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild. He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers, two sisters, and son-in-law, Barry Phelps.

A veteran of World War II, Mr. Ethridge served our country with the United States Air Force. He retired from Wilb Walker Supermarkets in 1990 after having served 41 years as employee,

manager, corporate officer, and part owner. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Mattoon; a former member and past president of Mattoon Rotary Club, where he was honored as Rotarian of the Year in 1971; a member of the Charleston Elks Post #623; a member and past Worthy Patron of the Order of the Eastern Star; a member of the Ansar Shrine and member and past president of the Corn Belt Shrine Club; a 20 year member and past chairman of the Salvation Army advisory board; past director of the Charleston Chamber of Commerce; past president of the Lincoln School PTA; and a member of the Charleston Area Bicentennial Commission. He was a 50 plus year member and past master of the Mattoon Masonic Lodge #260, a dual member of the Charleston Lodge #35 A.F. & A.M., and a Danville Scottish Rite Mason since 1959. He served as a District Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Illinois and served as Sovereign Prince of the Chapter and Commander'in-Chief of the Consistory. In 1973, he was coroneted a 33rd Degree Mason by the Supreme Council of Scottish Rite. \r\n\r\nMemorials in his honor may be made to the Shriners Hospital for Children'-St. Louis, 2001 S. Lindbergh Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63131.\r\n\r\nPlease visit www.mitchell-jerdan.com to light a virtual candle in his honor or share a memory with his family.

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Tribute Wall



“ *Joseph Wesley Ethridge III*

October 08, 2023 at 07:40 PM



“ *Becky, We went to Mexico together in high school. I remember your dad from the trip meetings, but most from the very kind, hard working manager/owner at Wilb Walkers. He worked right along side his employees and was such a kind person. Just wanted to say thoughts are with you, Frank (went to high school a year behind him) and the whole family. What a blessing having Joe for a dad.*

Stancey Hudson Granger - September 29, 2012 at 03:29 PM



“ *You're in our thoughts and prayers. Nice to read such a glowing obituary about such an obviously active and well respected and very loved man.*

Debbie & Larry Lappin - September 27, 2012 at 02:17 AM



“ *Joel*
Sorry to hear of your dad's passing. He was always very nice to me and figures into many of my fond memories of those 'wonder years'.

Robert Selleck - September 26, 2012 at 07:04 PM



“ *Frank and Joe I am sorry for the loss of your dad. He was a good man and I respected him very much. I am sorry for your loss.*

tom price - September 25, 2012 at 07:19 PM

JH

“ To our Patriarch: It is an honor to have been part of your family. Know that Juanita will be cared for and loved. \r\nLove, \r\nJim

Jim Hill - September 25, 2012 at 04:07 PM

SB

“ Thoughts, prayers, and HUGE HUGS to everyone.\r\nMay memories help you through the rough times!\r\nYou are all very special to me !!

Sandy Burris - September 25, 2012 at 01:32 PM

RH

“ My thoughts & prayers are with you guys. I'm sorry for your loss. I'll be thinking of you Thursday.

Rhonda Harter - September 25, 2012 at 02:28 AM

VD

“ The Officers and Members of Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, 32 Degree Masons, Valley of Danville wish to extend our sincere condolences.

Valley of Danville - September 24, 2012 at 08:50 PM