

RAYMOND R. "LEFTY" GUARD

June 30, 1923 - November 7, 2014



FACTS

Born: June 30, 1923

Death: November 7, 2014

GUESTBOOK

Share your thoughts and memories in the guestbook.

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BIOGRAPHY

Raymond R. "Lefty" Guard, 91, of Guard Drive in Princeton died Friday, November 7, 2014, at his residence. Born June 30, 1923, in Hurt, WV, he was the son of the late John Robert Guard and Annie Kate Miller Guard. In 1942 he was drafted by the U.S. Army where he served in the 75th Infantry Division Company M, also called the Diaper Division because he was so young at that time. He served on the front lines of combat during the Battle of Bulge and later served in Berlin where he was wounded twice and awarded a Purple Heart. Fifty-eight years after serving in the Battle of Bulge, he was awarded a Bronze Star for his bravery in Germany. He retired from Coppinger Machinery and was a charter member of Immanuel Baptist Church in Princeton. "Lefty" earned his nickname for being a left-handed baseball pitcher. He played for the Boston Braves in 1946 and the St. Louis Cardinals in 1947. He was instrumental in bringing the minor league baseball organization, originally Princeton Reds now Princeton Devil Rays, to Princeton. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Anna Lee Cole Guard; three brothers, Coy, Junior "J.R.", and Paul Guard; and two sisters, Dorothy Crawford and Mary Thompson. He is survived by one daughter, Joyce Wade and husband Darrell of Princeton; one son, Bobby Guard of Princeton; two grandchildren, Chris Wade, and Robbie Wade and wife Jami; three great-grandchildren, Trey, Cooper, and Hayden; and two sisters, Naomi Guard, and Betty Pendleton and husband Merle, all of Princeton.

VISITATION

Sunday November 9, 2014, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at Seaver Funeral Home

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

Memorial donations can be made to:
Immanuel Baptist Church, 1000 New Hope
Road, Princeton, WV 24740

[Click for Map and Directions](#)

FUNERAL SERVICE

Monday November 10, 2014, 11:00 a.m. at George W. Seaver
Chapel of Seaver Funeral Home

[Click for Map and Directions](#)

INTERMENT

Monday November 10, 2014 at Roselawn Memorial Gardens

[Click for Map and Directions](#)

Military graveside rites will be conducted by the WV National
Guard Honor Guard.

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