## **Robert Norton Downing**

Robert Norton Downing, 90, of NC Hwy 902, Siler City died Monday, December 22, 2014 at his residence.

Mr. Downing was born in Needham, Massachusetts on October 30, 1924 the son of Lawrence and Audrey (Norton) Downing. Robert was an active member of Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church where he served as Sunday School Superintendant for over 30 years, taught Sunday School and was a lay speaker. He was a Navy veteran of WWII and had been employed at Kellwood as a shipping supervisor. Robert was a sports enthusiast. He enjoyed all sporting events and had played professional baseball for the Carolina League. He was preceded in death by his parents and sister, Audrey Cooper.

He is survived by his wife of 66 years: Rochelle (Clark) Downing; sons: Larry Downing and wife, Pat of Frenchburg, KY, Tommy Downing of Siler City, NC; grandchildren, Jason Downing and wife, Tara and Chad Downing and wife, Jennifer; great-grandchildren, Makayla, Michael, Rebecca, Sarah, Caleb and Hannah and several nieces and nephews.

The family will receive friends Saturday, December 27, 2014 from 10:00-11:00AM at Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church, Pleasant Hill Church Road, Pittsboro, NC. The funeral will be Saturday at 11:00 at Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church. Burial will follow in the church cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church, Pleasant Hill Church Road, P O Box 785, Pittsboro, NC 27312 or Community Home Care & Hospice, 108 Village Lake Road, Siler City, NC 27344.

Smith & Buckner Funeral Home is assisting the family.

Online condolences may be made at www.pughfuneralhome.com.