

LETLOW, LOUIE

Posted: Monday, February 2, 2015 3:43 pm

Louie Eldridge Letlow, 85, passed away at East Alabama Medical Center on January 25, 2015 of cardiac arrest. Funeral service will be held Wednesday, January 28, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. at First United Methodist Church of Opelika with Reverend Randall Woodham officiating. Visitation will begin at 12:00 noon in the church Fellowship Hall, lasting until the funeral hour. He was born in Lee County on August 7, 1929 to the late Leonard T. and Izora Freeman Letlow. He grew up in the Pepperell Village and graduated from Clift High School in Opelika. He furthered his education at Alabama Polytechnic Institute, now Auburn University, with a degree in Industrial Management. Louie was an outstanding athlete at Clift High School under the coaching of the late Sam Mason. Following high school graduation, he enlisted in the United States Army during the Korean War. One of his assignments was to play on the baseball team at Ft. Sam Houston, Texas. He was an outstanding hitter and first baseman. Upon discharge from the military, he continued to play professional baseball, rising to Class A in the Western League, based in Wichita, Kansas. In the off seasons he continued his studies at Alabama Polytechnic Institute. Following graduation in 1959, he spent the next 32 years, first employed by Ampex Corporation, then by Diversified Products Corporation, both in Opelika. After his retirement in 1992, he enjoyed raising beef cattle and gardening at the farm in Salem, Alabama. Mr. Letlow is survived by his loving wife of sixty years, Betty; son Les T. Letlow (Linda) of Auburn, son Doug of Buford, Georgia; and daughter Jane Lawrence (Chris) of Spartanburg, SC. He is also survived by five grandchildren, Allison and Kristen Lawrence of Charleston, SC, Grayson Letlow of Auburn, Austin and Olivia Letlow of Buford, GA, a sister-in-law, Elizabeth Letlow of Seale, Alabama, together with a niece and six nephews. Besides his parents he was preceded in death by four siblings Royce Letlow, Robert Letlow, Mattie Schubert, and Sarah Quinton. Mr. Letlow was a loving husband, father and grandfather. His love for baseball and football was passed on to his sons and grandsons. He was an avid Auburn Football fan as well. As the grandchildren were growing up "Daddy Lou" did fun things with them including pond fishing. Mr. Letlow was a faithful member of First United Methodist Church of Opelika and the Poe-Cumbie Sunday School Class. Flowers will be accepted or memorials may be made to the First United Methodist Church Building Fund, 702 Avenue A, Opelika, Alabama 36801. Jeffcoat-Trant Funeral Home is directing. www.jeffcoattrant.com