



Ray Harper

June 28, 1938 - May 18, 2015

Ray Harper, age 76, of Sweetwater, passed away at his home on Monday, May 18, 2015. He retired in 2002 after 28 years of service with the Sweetwater Fire Department. He was an avid hunter and fisherman. He enjoyed spending time with family and friends. Preceded in death by his parents: Ira and Odell Harper, sister: Marie Fortenbury. Survivors include his daughter and son-in-law: Lisa and Stanley Russell, of Sweetwater, sons and daughter-in-law: Brandon Harper, of Sweetwater, Darrell and Robin Harper, of Decatur, Dale Harper, of Sweetwater, brother and sister-in-law: Travis and Connie Harper, of Atlanta, GA., 12 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren. The family will receive friends on Thursday, May 21, 2015, at Kyker Funeral Homes, Sweetwater, from 5:00P.M. until 7:00P.M. Kyker Funeral Homes, Sweetwater in charge of arrangements. www.kykerfuneralhomes.com

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY **21**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Kyker Funeral Homes
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Tribute Wall

MR

“ My thoughts and prayers go to the Harper family. I worked with Ray a few shifts at the fire dept. before he retired. I wish the family my condolences during this time.

Mark Rhodes - May 21, 2015 at 09:23 AM

LW

“ I am so sad to learn the news of Ray Harper. Though I left TN in 1982 I have many fond memories of "Harper", as we called him, every year during the duck season. Ray was one of the most accomplished hunters and fishermen that I have ever known. He was quite a man, so patient and kind and always willing to help. I will always treasure the many memories of the Fire Hall chats, walking the creeks, and the "Blue Hole". I only knew Darrel when he was just a little tyke, but my prayers are with all the Harper family. I'm sure "Harper" is now teaching all the Angles how to walk the creeks of Heaven to easily get their limit of ducks. Lem Wiggins

Lem Wiggins - May 20, 2015 at 02:11 PM

SV

“ The memories that come flooding back! Duck hunting on Sweetwater Creek and the "Blue Hole." Grabbling for catfish in Watts Bar. Turkey hunting at Tellico. Ray (whom, for some unknown reason, I always called "Alphonse") was one of the finest hunters-fishermen I ever met in 15 years of covering outdoor sports for the Knoxville News Sentinel. He was incredibly knowledgeable and very willing to share his skills with others. Plus he had a sense of humor next to nobody! Rest easy, my ol' friend. My sympathies go out to all in his family....Sam Venable

Sam Venable - May 19, 2015 at 03:59 PM