



Samuel F. Ellis

August 3, 1925 - February 21, 2007

Samuel F. Ellis (U.S. Army Retired), age 81, of Kingston died Wednesday, February 21, 2007 at Etowah, TN. He was born in Harriman, TN, the son of Jennings Bryan and Dove Goddard Ellis. He attended Roane State Community College after serving the United States for thirty years in the U.S. Army and achieving the rank of CW4. His army career included being a paratrooper with the 307th Airborne Engineer Battalion as part of the 82nd Airborne Division during WWII. He made four major combat jumps. The first jump was into Sicily and the second was into Naples, Italy. His third jump was part of the Normandy invasion on D-Day; his battalion jumped behind the lines into Sainte-Mer`e-Eglise, France. The fourth jump was into Holland and they continued on to the Battle of the Bulge in Germany. He received the Purple Heart during WWII. His career continued as a helicopter pilot in the Korean conflict. He was awarded the Bronze Star as a helicopter pilot during one of his two tours in Vietnam. Upon his retirement from the military, he worked for the Tennessee Department of Human Services in Kingston.

Survivors include his wife, Edna Ruth Ellis; daughter, Sally Ann Richmond; daughter and son-in-law, Sarah and Art Griffith; granddaughter and husband, Melissa and Kenny McNealy; great granddaughter, Tori Beth McNealy; brother and sister-in-law, Nick and Reba Ellis; sister-in-law, Bobby Wells; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his son, Samuel F. Ellis, Jr. The body has been donated to U.T. Memphis.

Friends are invited to join the family in a celebration of Sam's life at Kyker Funeral Home in Harriman on Saturday, February 24, 2007 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. The family requests no flowers. Memorials may be made to the church or charity of your choice.