



Sanford Gray

July 14, 1930 - August 11, 2005

Sanford Gray, of Coker Creek, TN, passed away on August 11, 2005. He was a committed Christian, husband, father, and citizen who tried to make a positive difference in his community. Mr. Gray was a long time member and deacon of First Baptist church of Sweetwater and also considered Ironsburg United Methodist Church as his community church. He had a 33 year association with Tennessee Military Institute and TMI Academy as a teacher, athletic coach, administrator and owner. He was founder of Tellico Mountain Camp and Coker Creek Village, a Christian camp and a group retreat center. Sanford also served two years in the US Army. He was a realtor and auctioneer for many years in Monroe County. Sanford was a strong believer in community service. He worked with the Tennessee Overhill Association, the Fort Loudon State Historical Park, the Monroe County Tourism Council, the Coker Creek Ruritan Club and Coker Creek Economic Group. He was preceded in death by his parents, Sanford R. and Bertheena Gray and his eldest son, Douglas Sanford Gray. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Esther Scarbrough Gray; children and their spouses: Bridgett and Dr. Richard Jackson of Morristown, Mary Lu and Bobby Atchley of Seymour, David and Becky Gray of Wurzburg, Germany. He is also survived by his 6 grandchildren: Joshua Vesser of Jefferson City, Justin and Amy Vesser of Lenoir City, Carrie Atchley and her brother Cameron Atchley of Seymour, Erin and her brother Dane Gray of Wurzburg, Germany; sister and brother in law, Jimmie Sue and William Campbell of Sheffield, Alabama; a host of cousins,

nieces, nephews and other beloved relatives and friends.

Memorials may be made to the building fund of Ironsburg United Methodist Church, Coker Creek, or the Family Life Center, First Baptist Church, Sweetwater, TN.

The family will receive friends Monday, August 15, 2005 from 4:00 to 8:00 PM at First Baptist Church, Sweetwater, with services to follow. Interment will take place on Tuesday, August 16, 2005 at 11:00 AM at West View Cemetery. Rev. Phil Holmes and Rev. Bill Clark will officiate. Kyker's Funeral Home will be in charge of the services.

Tribute Wall

DP

“ I remember his laugh. Makes me smile. I remember mom and dad, the Grays and the Simpsons playing Rook until the wee hours of the morning. All we kids fell asleep on the floor and woke up to laughter in the kitchen. The Simpsons, Grays and Edwards were making breakfast. I remember trips to Florida every summer. We camped at Fort Pickens. Such wonderful memories. So thankful to have known the Grays. There was no one better. Leon will be missed but will be held in our hearts forever. There will be a smile every time he crosses our minds. Here's to a life so we'll lived❤️ To all he loved so much, God bless and may He hold you in the shadow of His wings until the day we are all reunited in heaven.

Dana Powell Parent - July 29, 2021 at 12:19 PM