



Samuel Peoples

June 15, 1931 - March 13, 2012

SAMUEL M. PEOPLES, age 80, died in Little Rock on Tuesday, March 13, 2012. Born near Booneville, Arkansas on June 15, 1931, Sam is preceded in death by his father, Orin Peoples, his mother, Lola Cochran Peoples Williamson, and his brother, Jake Peoples. He is survived by his loving wife of sixty years, Jeannene; a sister, Loretta Thornton of Saint Joseph, Missouri; four children, Tonia Jones (David) of Little Rock, Greg Peoples (Georgia) of Springdale, Mark Peoples of Little Rock, and Tim Peoples (Josephine) of Austin, Texas; seven grandsons, Dylan Jones (Laura) of Little Rock, Matt Peoples of Austin, Texas, Tyler Jones of Little Rock, Jake Peoples of Austin, Texas, Luke Peoples of Austin, Texas, Caleb Drew Parker (Bethanny) of Conway, and Samuel Peoples II of Sherwood; and one great-granddaughter, Lily Jones of Little Rock.

Sam joined the U.S. Army Air Corp in 1947, participating in the Berlin airlift and serving as one of the advance troops for the 5th Air Force in the Korean War, where he helped liberate Seoul from the North. He then served several commands both in the United States and Europe as a member of the Air Force Office of Special Investigations, conducting counter-intelligence and major crimes investigations. In 1965, he transferred to the United States Army, where he served in the Criminal Investigation Division until his retirement in 1968.

He moved to Forrest City from Springdale in 1976 in conjunction with his second career, an insurance claims adjuster. In 1993, he fully-retired but remained active, enjoying golf, church activities, woodworking, and, of course, his family.

Sam was a devoted member of First United Methodist Church of Forrest City, and held almost every lay leadership position in the church. He was a member of the Board of Directors of East Arkansas Area Agency on Aging and is also a past president of the Forrest City Country Club. Sam's passing will leave a large void in the lives of his family and friends and also his dog "Moses."

Funeral services will be at Forrest City United Methodist Church on Monday, March 19 at 11:00 a.m, followed by visitation and a celebration of Sam's life in the church fellowship hall. Burial will be at Ft. Smith National Cemetery on Tuesday, March 20 at 2:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to First United Methodist Church of Forrest City. Visit online registry at stevensfuneralhome.net. Under the direction of Stevens Funeral Home.

Tribute Wall

DS

“ Jeannene & family: I was shocked and saddened to read of Sam's passing. May you be comforted by your wonderful memories and the fact that he will live on in the hearts of all his friends and family.

Love, Dyann Cochran Sutton

Dyann Sutton - April 12, 2013 at 08:29 AM

LB

“ *Samuel Peoples*

LIBBY PARKER BYRD - April 12, 2013 at 08:29 AM

BB

“ *Sam Peoples was a warm, exemplary and gentle man who was admired and respected by all who knew him! My father-in-law, Jack Bridgforth, enjoyed many golf games with Sam, and I had the privilege of teaching his son, Tim. My sincere sympathy to a wonderful family over your loss.*

Beth Bridgforth - April 12, 2013 at 08:29 AM

CC

“ *Jeannene, so sorry to hear of Sam's passing. He will truly be missed, especially at our family reunions.*

Colleen Cochran - April 12, 2013 at 08:29 AM

SH

“ Mrs. Peoples and family of Sam, I am so sorry to read of Sam's passing. I knew him years ago (1983 to 1986) when I worked at Servco Insurance in Wynne, AR. I always looked forward to seeing Sam. I loved to hear him talk and tell about his family and his military career. Sam was one of the most interesting people I have ever met. I pray for peace during this transitional time in your lives. I just wanted you to know that he touched my life and I will always remember him fondly.

--Shannon McMickle Haynes

Shannon Haynes - April 12, 2013 at 08:29 AM