



Charles "Carl" Rutherford

September 2, 1921 - October 26, 2011

Bluefield, WV- Charles Carlton "Carl" Rutherford, age 90, of Bluefield, West Virginia, passed away Wednesday, October 26, 2011 at Bluefield Regional Medical Center. Carl was born on September 2, 1921, in Tazewell, Virginia, the son of the late Charles and Nora Afton Rutherford. Carl graduated from Tazewell High School and enlisted in the United States Navy. Carl proudly served as Chief Yeoman on the personal staff of Five-Star Admiral Chester Nimitz, Commander-in-Chief, Pacific Command, in Hawaii and Guam. One of his primary responsibilities was routing secret and top-secret mail to Nimitz and his staff. One of his proudest moments while serving under Admiral Nimitz was the honor of meeting the late General Douglas MacArthur and the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt. Carl was the last surviving member of Admiral Nimitz's staff. He was honorably discharged from the United States Navy in February 1946. After his military service, Carl graduated from McLain's Business College. Carl's business career involved grocery store management in Powatan and Northfork for A&P and Piggly Wiggly. He then moved to Bluefield, WV where he was a salesman for Hooten Equipment Company, and later co-owner of Allied Refrigeration. Seeking a new challenge, Carl became a real estate sales associate and broker ultimately retiring as co-founder & co-owner of Sentry Land & Homes, Inc. In 1989, he served as president of the Mercer County Board of Realtors. In addition, Carl proudly served for many years on the Bluefield Union Mission Board of Directors, as well as on the Planning Commission for the City of Bluefield. He

is a member of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Bluefield, West Virginia. Carl was preceded in death by his parents, infant son, Charles Carlton Rutherford, II, and wife of sixty-seven years, Elsie Lovell Rutherford. In addition, brothers A.P., Leonard, and William Rutherford, as well as sisters Virginia Asbury, Ethel McCauley, and Grace Schaffer predeceased him. Carl is survived by two daughters, Sharon Rutherford Duckworth, and husband Larry, of Suwanee, Georgia, and Carolyn Rutherford Law, and husband Charles, of Bluefield, West Virginia. In addition, he leaves to mourn his memory five grandchildren: Matthew Preston Duckworth, and wife Amanda; Kristen Duckworth Parker, and husband, Greg; Benjamin Patrick Duckworth, and wife Katie; Kari-Beth Law Alden, and husband Andrew; and Megan Marie Law. Carl was blessed to love four great-grandchildren: Annabelle Parker, Samuel Parker, Caroline Duckworth, and Harper Alden. Carl is survived by one sister, Harriet Rutherford Poulas, of Culpepper, Virginia, a host of nieces and nephews, loving caregiver, Maria Hicks, and loyal friend and neighbor, Kathy Poe. Funeral services will be conducted Saturday, October 29, 2011 at 3:30 pm at Mercer Funeral Home, Bluefield, West Virginia. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service. Burial will follow at Grandview Memory Gardens in Bluefield, Virginia where military honors will be provided by the U.S. Navy and the Mercer County Veteran's Council. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to The Bluefield Union Mission in Carl's memory. Those wishing to share memories or condolence messages with the family may do so by visiting www.MercerFuneralHome.com Mercer FuneralHome & Crematory is serving the family of Mr. Charles Carlton "Carl" Rutherford.

Tribute Wall



“ Charles "Carl" Rutherford

October 05, 2023 at 06:08 PM



“ To the Family I worked with Carl at the Hooten Company 1974. We stayed in touch over the years, Carl loved his job, A very good Salesman and mentor to everyone. I will always remember his positive approach to business and customer service. He truly loved his family. I will miss my friend, may the love of our Lord and Savior comfort you during this time.. Steve McPherson Jonesborough, TN

Steve McPherson - March 07, 2014 at 04:20 PM



“ Carl will truly be missed. What a wonderful man, father, and friend.

Nancy Scott Roten - March 07, 2014 at 04:20 PM



“ I would like heartfelt condolences to Harriet who was a dear friend of my wife Isabel. I was a graduate of McClain,s 1949..Prayers and thoughts with you in mind.Jack Ringstaff

Jack Ringstaff - March 07, 2014 at 04:20 PM



“ Sharon and Carolyn... I just saw your father's obituary, and wanted you to know how sorry I am to hear of his passing. It's been many years, but I still remember him with fond memories.

Sheila Portis Fischetti - March 07, 2014 at 04:20 PM

AM

“ Dear Carolyn and Chuck: We were so sorry to hear of the passing of your father. We hope that you will find comfort in knowing that you are thought about. May you find peace in knowing he had such a good and honorable life.

Ann and Richard McLaughlin - March 07, 2014 at 04:20 PM

RG

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this time Carolyn. God's strenght for a brighter tomorrow.

Robert & Andrea Gruver - March 07, 2014 at 04:20 PM

RT

“ Carolyn, your parents and all of your family are so dear to us. I just cannot imagine that we will not see your Dad sitting in his living room chair watching folks pass by. He was one of the finest men we have ever known. It truly was a privilege to know him and your mother. GOD bless you during the difficult days.

Russell & Ann Taylor - March 07, 2014 at 04:20 PM