∽ Westside Journal

Edsel Higginbotham



Marvin 'Edsel' Higginbotham, 83, of Callahan, passed away peacefully at his home on November 26. Edsel was a life-long resident of Callahan. He graduated from Callahan High School in 1952, attended the University of Florida, and then enlisted in the United States Army.

Edsel had a prosperous real estate career, Higginbotham Realty, in Duval and Nassau counties. He developed many tracts of land throughout Nassau and Duval counties including Ratliff Road and Church Road in Callahan, Meadowfield Bluff in Yulee, and Old Plank Road in Duval County. He was a member of the Greater Jacksonville Morocco Shrine Club and the Callahan Masonic Lodge. He was a life-long member of First Baptist Church of Callahan. Edsel was also a lifetime member of the Crawford Hunting Club where he was known as 'Landman' by club members.

Edsel married the love of his life Mildred Parker in 1959. Edsel and Mildred would have been married 58 loving years in December. He was an avid outdoorsman and a lover of the land, especially "overseeing" his property. Edsel also enjoyed spending time in his other homes on the St. John's River, Lofton Creek, and St. Augustine Beach. He was preceded in death by his parents Farres and Helen Higginbotham; and in-laws Willie and Lula Mae Parker; as well as several close family members.

He is survived by his wife Mildred; his daughter Sandra (Mike) Giles; four beautiful granddaughters Blair (Mike) Harris, Brooke (Austin) Carr, Katie Giles and Haylie (Zack) Whittenburg; and Edsel's greatest joy was found as a great-grandfather to four greatgrandsons Lawson, Parker, Grady and Tucker; his siblings Shirley (Punk) Perret, Jimmy (Carol) Higginbotham, Patricia Conner and Janet Conner.

Visitation was held Tuesday, November 28 at First Baptist Church of Callahan. Funeral services were held Wednesday, November 29 at the First Baptist Church of Callahan. Interment followed in Keen Cemetery, Callahan.

Pallbearers were Scott Perret, Gerald Perret, Johnny Perret, Jeff Godbee, Scott Barrett, Jimmy Magill, John Keen and Wesley Peacock. Honorary pallbearers were Bill Spencer, Donnie Kirkland, Buddy Conner, Dan Conner and William Cook.

In lieu of flowers, memorials in Edsel's memory can be made to First Baptist Church of Callahan's Mission Fund.

Condolences may be expressed at www.nassaufh.com.

Arrangements by Nassau Funeral Home, Callahan, 879-1770.