



Cleatus Burton Houston

June 29, 2011

Coleman Funeral Home of Oxford

Cleatus "Sam" Burton Houston, 78, died Wednesday, June 29, at his home from brain cancer. Visitation will be held Friday, July 1, 2011, 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at Coleman Funeral Home in Oxford, MS. Funeral service will be held Saturday, July 2, 2011, 2:00 p.m. in the Coleman Funeral Home Chapel, with burial to follow at Mt. Zion Church Cemetery, Oxford, MS.

Born on Mar. 8, 1933, he graduated from University High School in 1952. He served in the Mississippi National Guard for 12 years, during which time he helped his sharpshooter rifle team (of Battery A204th AAA Battalion) win the state National Guard Rifle Match in Jackson, MS.

While working at Sears in Memphis, he met his future wife, Elvis Larin Crick, whom he married in 1956. They celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary this past Feb. 18.

He led a distinguished career with Kroger Stores in Memphis for 34 years, most of them as manager. In 1992, he and his wife retired to Abbeville, after building their home on his family land.

The whole family looked forward to his Sunday morning pancakes, which

were the stuff of legend; nobody made a pancake like “Papa!” He was always ready to lend a helping hand to friends, family, and neighbors, and he was an active member of the Abbeville and Oxford communities. He loved listening to bluegrass music and traveling to music festivals around the South with his wife in their Holiday Rambler RV.

He is survived by his wife, Elvis Larin Crick Houston, of Alva; his sister, Estelle Kiger (John) of Abbeville; his brother-in-law, Robert Seymour, Sr., of Forest, Ohio; one son, William “Bill” Houston of Bartlett; one daughter, Debra “Debbie” Houston Kallaher (Kevin) of Memphis; and four granddaughters; Ashley Nicole Houston-Coburn(Matthew) of Olive Branch, MS, Kelly Anne Kallaher of St. Louis, MO, Kristin Marie Kallaher, and Lauren Michelle Houston, both of Memphis.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to North Mississippi Hospice or the American Cancer Society. The family would like to express their deepest thanks to all those at North Mississippi Hospice and Comfort Keepers for their help and support.

Online condolences may be left at www.colemanfuneralhome.com.