



James Prentiss Hooper

March 13, 2009

Coleman Funeral Home of Oxford

Lt. Col. (ret.) James Prentiss Hooper, age 83, of Oxford, Mississippi, died Friday, March 13, 2009, at 12:15 p.m. at Community Hospice-Darlington Oaks in Verona, MS.

Born in Walthall, Mississippi, Mr. Hooper served in the United States Navy from 1943 to 1946 and in the United States Army from 1953 to August 14, 1970, at which time he retired. He received a Bachelor's degree in Biology and a Master's of Science Degree in Pharmacology from the University of Mississippi. He spent three years in the Army serving in Germany and five years as a chemist in the Fifth Army Laboratory in St. Louis, MO. He attended the Department of Defense Language Institute, graduating as a Mandarin Chinese Linguist and was the Chinese interpreter for the Army Surgeon General. During his travels to Hong Kong, Thailand, Laos, India and Nepal, Prentiss was granted an audience with the Dalai Lama of Tibet. Upon returning to the United States, Prentiss became a biochemist for the Gorgas Hospital in the Panama Canal Zone and was the Toxicologist for the Canal Zone Government. He will be remembered by many of his former students as a chemistry teacher at Oxford High School. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Oxford, MS.

By direction of the President of the Ole Miss Army R.O.T.C. Alumni Board, Lt. Col. (ret.) James Prentiss Hooper, class of 1951, was recently inducted into The Rebel Battalion Hall of Fame. His selection to the Hall of Fame was in recognition of his exceptionally meritorious military service and achievements. Lt. Col. Hooper is the author of two books, *The Bloody Trace* (2005) and *Melting The Ice Road* (2006).

Visitation will be held Monday, March 16, 2009, 12:30 p.m.-2:00 p.m. at Coleman Funeral Home. Funeral services will immediately follow at 2:00 p.m. in the Coleman Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Jonathan Scanlon officiating. Interment will be in St. Peter's Cemetery in Oxford, MS. Coleman Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include one brother, Alvin Hooper of Oak Ridge, TN; two nieces and one nephew. His wife of 53 years, Louise Frazier Hooper, his parents, James Franklin and Ozie Swindoll Hooper, and one brother, Calvin Hooper, preceded him in death.

Pallbearers will be Vic Smith, Gene Knight, Brian Fox, Dick Sander, Glen Cofield and John Swartzendruber. Honorary pallbearers will be Doug Brandon, Aston Holley, Falton Mason, Eugene Eber, Larry Cobb, John McCauley and Floyd Metts.

Memorials may be made to the charity of the donor's choice.