



Edward Eugene Sikes

May 19, 2010

SIKES, Edward "Gene" Eugene, 81, of Plant City, Florida, passed away on Wednesday, May 19, 2010. He was born March 11, 1929 in Nichols, Florida. He was a 1947 graduate of Mulberry High School, where he was a stellar student and athlete excelling in football, basketball, and baseball. He was the first Mulberry athlete selected All District in three different sports. His love of sports continued through his semi-pro career with the Plant City Berries, as an avid supporter of the FSU Seminoles, and golf and fishing. He was a 1951 graduate of FSU, where he was a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity's first pledge class. After college he served in the United States Navy attaining the rank of Lieutenant, and was a veteran of the Korean War stationed on the USS Coney. His career began with Miller Bearing Company working 35 years in the bearing business in Lakeland and Tampa. He later became a vital part of the growth and development of Ball and Roller Bearing Company, serving as president. During his tenure, he was elected as the Southeastern Region Director of the Bearing Specialists Association of North America. He also served on the Bearing Manufacturers Advisory Boards and regional manager for Coastal Plains and Kaman Technology from which he retired. He was a member of First Methodist Church of Plant City, the Plant City Golf and Country Club, Walden Lake Golf and Country Club, Lone Palm Golf and Country Club, and Plant City Elks Club, and he was co-owner of SP Mobile Home Park in Bartow. He is survived by his loving wife of 58 years Margaret McLaughlin Sikes; children M.A. Peggy Sikes of Duluth, Georgia, Debby Sikes

Heyman (Kurt) of Longwood, and Stephen Sikes (Tina) of Dover; siblings Mary Clements of Lakeland, Laura Bell of Macon, Georgia, and Linda Bostic of Fernandina Beach; and grandchildren Shane and Spencer Sikes, and Jackson and Luke Heyman. Services will be held on Saturday, May 22 at 11:00 A.M. at First United Methodist Church of Plant City, 303 North Evers Street, where the family will receive friends beginning at 10:00 A.M. Interment to follow at Memorial Park Cemetery. Special thanks to the Palliative Care Unit at Lakeland Care Unit of Lakeland Memorial Hospital, and Dr. Luis Nardella and Dr. Louis Saco for their continuous care, support, and love; both are exceptional examples of the Hippocratic Oath. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the First United Methodist Memorial Fund, Florida United Methodist Children's Home, P.O. Box 62999, Deltona, Florida 32728-9988, and/or the Fisher House, James A. Haley VA Hospital, 13000 Bruce B. Downs Blvd, Tampa 33612. Expressions of condolence at www.hopewellfuneral.com.

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Tribute Album*



Hopewell Funeral Home - January 17, 2011 at 08:32 AM



“ *Peggy, please know we are thinking of you during this difficult time. god bless, Du##imported-begin##Lynley Durrett MD##imported-end##*

January 17, 2011 at 08:32 AM



“ *Debby, Thank you so much for introducing me to your mom and dad. We have enjoyed Thanksgiving together and even the Plant City Strawberry Festival. You father touched my son's life especially getting to be with him while playing with Jackson. I understand your sorrow and know that you can lean on me if you need to. Please give Margaret a hug for me and let her know she is in my prayers as well as your brother and sister. Kim##imported-begin##Kim Gilfedder##imported-end##*

January 17, 2011 at 08:32 AM



“ *Debby, I am sorry for your loss. Your Father had a full life, all of us should be so blessed. Your Father will live on though your sons Jackson and Luke as a part of him is in them.##imported-begin##John W Hodges##imported-end##*

January 17, 2011 at 08:32 AM



“ *Dear Mrs. Sikes, The Evans family has fond memories of living next door to you and Mr. Sikes from 1989 to 2003, in Pinedale. You were both wonderful neighbors. Our sons Matthew and John were always impressed with Mr. Sikes's dedication to his front yard golf game! We miss those days in Pinedale. It was a privilege and an honor to be your neighbor. God Bless you and your family. We are sorry for your loss. Love Hallie Evans##imported-begin##Hallie and Stephen Evans##imported-end##*

January 17, 2011 at 08:32 AM



“ *Many thanks to all friends and family for their continuous care, support, and love throughout all years.##imported-begin##peggy sikes##imported-end##*

January 17, 2011 at 08:32 AM