



Jasper H. Gardner

December 8, 1913 - February 28, 2007

Jasper Hannibal Gardner, resident of Searcy, died Wednesday, February 28, 2007. He was 93 years of age.

Mr. Gardner was born December 8, 1913 in Stanford, Arkansas, a son of Albert David and Della Dollison Gardner. He received his Master's Degree from Peabody College in Nashville, Tennessee. Mr. Gardner dedicated his life to Arkansas public education service as a Superintendent, serving school districts in Vilonia, Biggers-Reyno, and Beedeville. After retiring, he worked for the Florida Health and Human Services at Tavares for 7 years. He returned to Arkansas in 1980. Mr. Gardner was a member of the Arkansas Retired Teachers Association and Downtown Church of Christ in Searcy.

Survivors included his wife, Alta Bea Hillis Gardner; two sons, David Joel Gardner of Hopkinsville, Ky and James Hillis Gardner of Memphis; a daughter, Martha Graham of Searcy; five grandchildren; five great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers; three sisters.

Tribute Wall



“ As a former Student of Biggers-Reyno High School, Class of 1970..I remember this gentle man and his kindness and willingness to help others. He will always be one of the people in my life who have touched my heart in their witness and knowledge. Basketball games watching James..so many memories of years gone by. May God Bless you and yours in this time of loss...Kay Dawn Crawley Vaughn

March 10, 2007 at 12:00 AM



“ Jasper was a wonderful, kind Christian gentleman. He was always a great encourager to me. I shall miss the twinkle in his eye and his wonderfully dry sense of humor. May God bless you and your family with strength and comfort.

March 03, 2007 at 12:00 AM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are there with you. What a wonderful asset he was to our school and community. He was kind, always a gentleman, and eager to help his students. I was always impressed with his knowledge.

I was in the class of 1955 with Joel. We always enjoyed his attending our class reunions. He always made that special effort to come and be apart of our celebration. It would not have been the same if he hadn't been there.

May God be very near you at this time and fill the void in your heart and lives. Our love to all of you. Jo Ann Heffington

March 03, 2007 at 12:00 AM



“ It is hard to remember Vilonia High School and not remember one of the most kind people you could ever meet. I was in the class of 1958 the year after Mr Gardner left for Biggers-Reyno. I sure missed him my senior year. My sympathy goes out to his family.

March 03, 2007 at 12:00 AM



“ I have fond memories of the many visits that Jasper made to visit with my mother and for his sharing his family experiences about her grandfather. Our trip to California was a joy for him, my mother, and myself. We visited the town where my great grandfather lived and worshiped and where Jasper stayed with him and helped him gather apples.

He was a smart man and loved his family and church dearly. My thoughts and prayers are with his family at this time.

March 03, 2007 at 12:00 AM



“ My parents, Homer and Alta Hoffman, knew Mr. Gardner as superintendent at Vilonia School and as a fellow church member at Woodrow. They thought very highly of him. They enjoyed his visits at their home when he would be in the area to attend the Vilonia School reunion. These are good memories from long ago.
Doris Hoffman Hutchins

March 03, 2007 at 12:00 AM



“ When I think of Jasper Gardner it is with great fondness for the true gentleman that he was, and for the hours as a true missionary he has been for many years. When he came to Searcy, he had a box full of World Bible School students that he was corresponding with, as he graded their lessons and returned them. For many years he continued to foot the expenses himself, but eventually the load became heavy enough financially that he accepted help from the church fund for this purpose. Then he began also to take on some World English courses, eventually even making a trip to Romania to visit some of his students. It was a sad day for him when it was necessary to stop this mission work, but I know his prayers for the work continued. Now he can greet some of his brothers and sisters from foreign lands in Heaven.

God bless his family and friends.

*In Christ,
Winnie Bell*

March 03, 2007 at 12:00 AM