



John M. Armstrong, Jr.

RUSTON, LA - A memorial service for the life of John Mills Armstrong, Jr. will be held at Trinity United Methodist Church of Ruston on Saturday, January 10, 2009 at 11:00 A.M. with Rev. Rolly Walker, Rev. Jerry Hilbun and Rev. Andy Hurst officiating. Visitation with the family will be at Sonny's home on Friday January 9, 2009 from 4:00 P.M to 6:00 P.M.

Born in Ruston on January 22, 1923, John (Sonny Boy) passed away at home on Wednesday January 7, 2009 following a lengthy illness.

Sonny was a graduate of Chamberlain-Hunt Academy and of Louisiana Tech. He served in World War II as a member of the United States Army Air Corps, stationed in England. From there he flew many missions over Germany and France as captain of a B-26 Marauder tactical bomber, and he participated in the D-Day Invasion. During the course of the war his plane was shot down over the English Channel but all of his crew survived uninjured.

He had a long and successful career as a business man, and during his retirement, he became one of the founding board members of Argent Financial Group. Sonny remained an Argent director emeritus until the time of his death.

Sonny was a long-time supporter of St. Jude Children's Hospital and Chamberlain-Hunt Academy of Port Gibson, Mississippi. At Chamberlain-Hunt he was recently granted the Hunt Award for his generosity to his old alma mater.

Sonny Boy leaves behind many dear old friends in Ruston, some of whom go back to the time of his youth.

His family survivors include his wife Gloria Jeanne Patterson Armstrong; Billy Bob (canine); son: Dr. John Mills Armstrong, III and wife Jeanne Karen; grandchildren: Abigail Elaine Armstrong Simpkins and husband Aubrey, and Cody Justin Armstrong; great grandchildren: Eva Katheranne Simpkins, Tullie Jean Simpkins, and Bain Armstrong Simpkins; first cousins: Carrie Lee Link and husband George, Pricilla Heard Bowman, and Eleanor Harris Brown and husband Billy.

Sonny is preceded in death by his parents: Pricilla Elaine Cargill Armstrong and John Mills Armstrong; baby sister: Mary Elizabeth Armstrong; aunts: Mayme Cargill Heard and husband Raymond, EleanorJane "Bill" Cargill Harris and husband Abe; uncle: John Lee Cargill; first cousins: Alice Heard Holland and Abe Harris.

Even though a simple memorial service, the family nevertheless wishes to recognize honorary pallbearers: Mayor John Perritt, Jimmy Mize, Mike Reed, Dr. Benji "Barney" Baugh, W. A. Jones, Billy James, Bill Patterson, Carl Johnson, Sonny Orren, Kyle McDonald, Dr. George Smith, Dr. Tommy Smith, Glen Neville, Johnny Maxwell, Robert Temple, Richard Swift, Taylor Moore, Dr. Otis Guilley, L. E. Dawson, and C. W. Cochran.

The family's thanks go to the wonderful care of Hospice of Caring Hearts and Richard Dunn's service.

Memorials for Sonny Boy might include St. Jude Children's Hospital, Chamberlain-Hunt Academy and 4-PAWS Rescue of Ruston, or the charity of your choice.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.kilpatrickfuneralhomes.com
Kilpatrick Funeral Home, Ruston, LA 318-255-2832