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## Jewell Ira "Buddy" Mills



MILLS, Jewell Ira "Buddy," passed away peacefully at 11 a.m.

September 14, 2010, with his loving family by his side. He would have been 79 on November 19. He will be greatly missed by all his family and many friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, Jewell Ira Mills and Louise Rawlinson Perry, and his sister, Virginia Louise Smith.

He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Elizabeth Ann (Miller) Mills; his children, Charles P. Anderson (Julie), David G. Anderson (MaryAnn), Brenda Elizabeth Frazier (Jeff) and Mary Kathleen McKendree (Donnie). He is also survived by his 13 grand-children, Raymond (Leah), Aaron (Rachelle), Adam (Mindy) and Mary Grace Anderson, Jeffrey (Andrea), Julie (Alex), Rachel (Zack) and Lea Frazier, Derek, Robbie (Janelle), Jason (Misty), Nikki (Robert) and Buddy McKendree; and 12 great-grandchildren, Jordan, Alexis and Brody (Anderson), Lilly and Raegan (Frazier), Justice, Arianna, Jett, Savannah, Paisley, Hunter and Shelby (McKendree). Buddy is also survived by his beloved late sister's two daughters, Cheri Lynn Smith McPherson (Douglas, Natalie) and Jennifer Louise Smith Fritch (Kelli,

Kristi).

Buddy was a fourth generation native of Tampa and retired from the Tampa Fire Department (now Tampa Fire Rescue) in 1978 with the rank of superintendent of fire alarms. He was a member of FireFighters Local Union 754, past treasurer of Tampa FireFighters Sertoma Club, of which he was Sertoman of the Year in 1990-91, Life Member of Sertoma International, treasurer of Tampa Retired Firefighters Association, past secretary of Tampa Firefighters Benevolence Association and past board member of the Tampa Fire and Police Pension Fund.

Buddy served in the U.S. Air Force during the [Korean War](#) receiving the following medals, Korean Service Medal, U.N. Service Medal, two Bronze Service Stars and a National Defense Service Medal. His grandfather, L.M. Rawlinson, rode with Teddy Roosevelt up San Juan Hill during the Spanish-American War. Buddy was born and grew up in Tampa and often regaled his children and grandchildren with tales of hunting and fishing with his childhood friends, Fred and Jimmy Jones and Frank Fuente. Never were there better lifelong friends than these four were. In his later years Buddy enjoyed fishing and football; especially his Florida Gators, having taped every one of their winning games (no losers) since 1993 and watching them over and over. He also enjoyed playing Pinochle at the Lutz Community Center and spending Friday nights either playing Sequence with Fred and Irene Jones, or poker with Ray and Mickey Bowen. The family will receive friends 6-8 p.m. Thursday, September 16, 2010, at Blount and Curry Funeral Home, Carrollwood Chapel, 3207 W. Bearss Ave., Tampa, FL 33618. Funeral services will take place at noon Friday at the funeral home. Buddy's brother-in-law, Earl Smith, will officiate the services, with the Tampa Fire Rescue Honor Guard also participating. Pallbearers will be his grandsons. Committal services with full military honors will follow at 2 p.m. at Florida National Cemetery, Bushnell, Fla., where his grandson, Aaron Anderson, will render taps. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Tampa Firefighters Museum, 720 Zack St., Tampa, FL 33602.



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