

Mr. Frank Conley Abernethy Sr. age 90 of Keystone Heights

July 23, 1930 - November 6, 2020

Frank Conley Abernethy Sr, 90, died Friday, November 6, 2020. Frank was quick to let you know, even after a cancer diagnosis last May, that it is a “great day” and he had lived a “blessed life”. These two quotes were his personal mantra and became the same for the family.

Frank, the only child of Marion Turner and Linnie Phillips Abernethy, was born on July 23, 1930 in Jacksonville FL. He grew up in the Norwood area where he formed childhood friendships lasting his lifetime. He was a graduate of Andrew Jackson and attended Jacksonville University.

Frank enjoyed a thirty eight year career in law enforcement. He retired in 1996 as Superintendent of Public Safety for the Jacksonville Port Authority. He spent his retirement years lakeside in Keystone Heights where he met and married Linda Gray on his seventieth birthday. Frank and Linda were blessed with twenty years of RV traveling, Jaguars and Gators games, a shared love of fishing, and summers in Maggie Valley, NC. Their friends are many and the good times with them made for a “great day” and memories to cherish.

In addition to his wife, Linda, Frank is survived by his children, Susan Abernethy Simpson (Ken) of Jasper Ga, Mark Abernethy Sr of Hilliard, and Valerie Abernethy Elwood(Rusty) of Jacksonville; his stepsons, Jack Gray Jr (Amie) of Matthews NC and Jason Gray (Shannon) of Jacksonville; his grandchildren, Sandi Abernethy, Natalie Abernethy, Shanna Abernethy McKinnerney (Marc), Frank Abernethy III ‘Trey’, Melissa Simpson Oliver (Shawn), Emily Simpson Ramirez (Ed), Josh Simpson (Monica), Mark Abernethy Jr, Jeremy Abernethy, Samantha Abernethy, Stefan Tomlinson, Jessica Tomlinson, Juliana Elwood, Elizabeth Gray, Alison Gray, Joshua Gray, and Jacob Gray. Frank had 19 great grandchildren and four great great grandchildren. He was predeceased by his son, Frank Abernethy Jr and his granddaughter, Michelle Abernethy. He loved them all!

Frank was an active member of the Keystone United Methodist Church as well as Kiwanis and other local clubs.

A Celebration of Life will be held at Keystone United Methodist Church on Saturday, November 21, 2020 at 1:00 PM. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations be made to his church (keystone-umc.org), 4004 State Rd 21, Keystone Heights FL

32656.

Comments



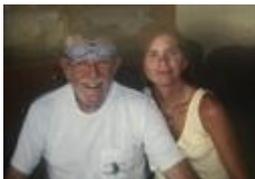
“ My Dad was the kindest, loving and patient man. He was my best friend. I could tell him anything & he didn't always agree, but he would listen so patiently & then give me advice (he was always right, just allowing me to talk it out without interrupting me was one of the greatest gifts he gave me & sometimes, he even agree with me, are but true). He was the person I called on with all my concerns, questions, guidance & to share all happy times. I'm sure if you asked anyone that knew him well, they would all say he was the most giving, loving & the best person to have had the pleasure of knowing. I know he is in Heaven & maybe consulting with God on how to make this world a better place!!! I've been blessed to have you, Daddy! All my love Daddy!!!
Valerie



Valerie Elwood - November 18, 2020 at 11:22 PM



“ So grateful to have had such a Grandfather. Grateful he had Linda for his golden years. Love that he had such a grateful life and comforted knowing we came from such a pure heart. See you on the other side Granddaddy. Love you



shanna mckinnerney - November 14, 2020 at 11:32 AM



“ This was the last person on earth who has known me all the days of mine, my dad. I am so lucky to have had him for 66+years. He got to hold MY great grandchildren! I was his daughter and his friend. We could, and did, talk about anything and agreed on most things. Daddy had a way of making you feel like you were the most important person in the world when he was talking with you. Daddy, Linda, Ken, and I shared many a “great day” visiting on the lake, on our mountain, and in Maggie Valley through the years. In between those visits were the regular phone calls. I will so miss those calls and he left the best voicemails! He told me countless times God had Blessed him with a good and long life. Yes, He did and I am grateful!



Susan Simpson - November 11, 2020 at 07:38 PM



“ So blessed to be his great granddaughter, Granddaddy will be greatly missed. It is a Great Day that he is rejoicing with Jesus. - Cheyenne Armstrong



Cheyenne Armstrong - November 11, 2020 at 06:41 PM