



Ellis George

July 15, 1922 - December 1, 2010

Ellis Eugene "Gene" George, 88, a lifelong resident of the Springdale area, died December 1, 2010 at Washington Regional Medical Center in Fayetteville surrounded by his family. He was born July 15, 1922 at home in the Brush Creek community of Elm Springs, Arkansas to Charles Lee and Willie Jeanette Lowe George. His family moved to Springdale in 1934. As a Christian, he was a member of First United Methodist Church, and worshipped at Cross Church in Springdale and Fellowship Bible Church of Northwest Arkansas with his family. Gene attended Brush Creek and Springdale schools, graduating from Springdale High School in 1940 as President of his senior class. He attended the University of Arkansas majoring in Business Administration. Gene served in the United States Navy from May 12, 1944 to May 16, 1946. During World War II he was aboard the USS Okanogan APA 220. Honorably discharged as a Storekeeper, Second Class, he was awarded an American Theatre medal, an Asiatic - Pacific medal Bronze Star, a Victory medal and a Philippine Liberation medal. During his childhood years, Gene performed various duties at the Farmers Produce Company, a business started by his father. Returning from the Navy he joined his father, C. L., his brother, Luther, and his sister-in-law, Cathryn, in the company, which later became known as George's Feed and Supply Company and presently George's, Inc. After the untimely death of his brother in 1969, followed shortly thereafter by the death of his father, Gene took over full responsibility for the George's company, serving as President and Chief

Executive Officer from 1969 to 1980 and Chairman of the Board from 1980 until his passing. He served his community on the First National Bank of Springdale Board of Directors from 1969 to 2004, the Legacy National Bank Board of Directors from 2004 until his passing, the Springdale Memorial Hospital Board of Directors, currently Northwest Medical Center, from 1970 to 1998 and the Community Care Foundation Board of Directors from 1998 to 2003. He also served on the J. B. Hunt Transport Incorporated Board of Directors from its inception in 1961 to 2004, the Hudson Foods Board of Directors and the Arkansas Poultry Federation Board of Directors. He was President of the Arkansas Turkey Federation in 1963 and Chairman of the Arkansas Poultry Festival in 1982. Gene was named "Man of the Year" in 1982 by the Arkansas Poultry Federation and recognized as a "Pioneer of the Poultry Industry" in 1994 by the University of Arkansas Poultry Science Center. He was given the "Pioneer Citizen Award" by the Springdale Jaycees in 1982, the "Outstanding Civic Service Award" by the Springdale Chamber of Commerce in 1994 and was the first recipient of the "Spirit of Harvey Jones Award" in 2007. He was inducted into the Arkansas Agricultural Hall of Fame in 1993 and into the Arkansas Business Hall of Fame in 2002. The news magazine Arkansas Business named him one of the "Top 25 Living Legends in Arkansas" in 2009. Gene was preceded in death by his parents; his wife of 56 years to whom he was married April 13, 1947, Mary Frances Rice George; one grandson, David Ray Evans, junior; one brother, Luther Lee George and his wife, Cathryn Collier George; and one sister, Lillian Jeanette George Redwine and her husband, Joe. He is survived and loved by his family, Virginia Clark Rogers George, of Springdale to whom he was married November 20, 2005; one daughter, Cathy Lu George Evans and husband David, of Fayetteville; one son, Gary Charles George and wife Robin, of Springdale; four granddaughters, Erin Angela Evans Bridges, Mary Kathryn George Brown and husband Matthew, Julie Ann George Swope and husband Patrick, and Linden Michelle Evans Siems and husband Brandon; two grandsons, Charles Ellis George and wife Samantha, and Carl Eugene

George and wife Anna; four great granddaughters, Elissa Lauren Bridges, Bailey Ann Brown, Bryn Michelle Siems and Campbell Elizabeth Brown; six great grandsons, Evan Matthew Bridges, Hayden Walker Swope, Carter Holt Swope, Benton David Siems, Asher Charles George and Garrick Elisha George. A funeral service will be at ten o'clock Monday, December 6, 2010 at Cross Church in Springdale with The Reverends Ronnie Floyd, C. L. "Red" Dixon and Mickey Rapier officiating. Entombment will be at Bluff Cemetery. The family will receive friends from one o'clock to four o'clock in the afternoon Sunday, December 5, 2010 at Sisco Chapel in Springdale. Pallbearers will be Charles Ellis George, Carl Eugene George, Matthew John Brown, Patrick Holt Swope, Barry Anthony Bridges, Brandon Givens Siems, John Lee George and Richard Eugene George. Honorary Pallbearers will be Joseph Sanford Boone, Marion Edison Brown, Haroldean Hewitt, Billy Reid Holiman, Otto Oliver Jech, Walter Lee Turnbow, Johnelle DeBusk Hunt and The Lunch Bunch. Loving Assistants are Nora Dodson Hall, Debbie Loraine Young, Linda Dianne Knox, Sharon Kaye McCutcheon, Jackie Lou Holiman and Elsie Marie McKnight. Memorials may be made to Circle of Life Hospice, 901 Jones Road, Springdale, Arkansas 72762 or Arkansas Children's Hospital, 1 Children's Way, Little Rock, Arkansas 72202.

Tribute Wall



“ *Ellis George*

January 21, 2023 at 02:29 PM



“ *Gary, Robin and the George family; I'm so sorry for your loss. Thoughts and prayers are with you as you get thru this. Sincerely, Kim Barker*

December 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers from Gene George Elementary go out to your family. When "Mr. Gene" came to our school over the years to see the children, he always talked about character and working hard to achieve their goals. We will miss him, and we pray for your comfort and peace during this very difficult time. Sincerely, Annette Freeman*

December 06, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ *My thoughts and prayers are with all of your family. Your Dad was an exceptional friend, supporter, and employer and my Dad, Billy Daily, thought the world of him. He will be greatly missed by all.*

December 06, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Gary and Family My Heart and my Wifes go out to all of you for the loss of your Dad,Granddad and Greatgranddad We have already been in your place and We know it hurts. All We can say is that the whole George Family will remain in Our thoughts and Prayers.

Jim & Sherrill Reed

December 05, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Cathy,David,Gary,Robin -- Deepest sympathy in the loss of your Daddy. Almost eight years after losing my dad, I still miss him. Take comfort in knowing he was such a good, well-respected, well-liked man. My heart goes out to you and my prayers are with you. Connie McJunkin Lewis

December 05, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Erin & Linden & your Mom
Sorry for your lost
may god be there for you All
Alice & Charles

December 03, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Gary & Robin, Cathy & David, Virginia & the entire family, We are so sad to hear about your loss. You have been so blessed to have loved him & be loved by him. Gene was such a great example of father, husband, grandfather & more. What a wonderful man!
Love, Gay & Dan Riner

December 03, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ *My thoughts and prayers are with your family as you cope with the passing of Mr. Gene.*

December 02, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ *Gary,
My heart goes out to you and your entire family as you mourn the loss of your dad...I know that family means everything to you and that his passing will leave a hole in your heart...will keep you in my thoughts and prayers...*

December 02, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dear Family, My husband, Shelby, worked for your dad in the late 50's and early 60's. He was a dear friend to our family...he was loved and respected by all of us. He continued to be concerned and helpful to us even after we moved to Northeast AR to take care of our aged parents. He made the trip to Swifton and sat by me at Shelby's funeral in August of 1999. My children and I send our prayers to you in your loss. May God Bless You, Mary Smith*

March 04, 2010 at 12:00 AM