



## Lee Deal

January 23, 1933 - January 14, 2017

Lee Thomas Deal, 83 passed away January 14, 2017. Lee was born in Cleveland, Ohio on January 23, 1933 to the late Fred and Martha Thomas Deal. He attended local schools and Fenn College. Lee was struck with polio at the age of 13 but despite his handicap, was an avid athlete, playing on the Cleveland Comets wheelchair basketball team and competing and winning silver and gold medals for swimming at the National Wheelchair Olympics in New York City in 1960. Lee is survived by his loving wife of 56 years, Georgene; two daughters Deborah Dixon and Lisa Bambury (Ron); one granddaughter Melissa Dixon; and several nieces and nephews. He had one daughter, Diana Deal, who preceded him in death. He is also survived by three sisters, Gwyn Champlin; Alyce Brentari; and, Georgiena (Jody) Deal, all of Florida. He was a member of Optimist International for 64 years, serving as President and Lt Governor in chapters in Virginia and Florida. He retired as a Contracting Officer from the Department of Defense and moved to Florida with his wife to enjoy the warmth and closeness of their extended family. He served as Service Officer for 10 years for a local NARFE chapter, a longtime volunteer at MRMC, and was an active member of Countryside Presbyterian Church, serving as an Elder, President of the Corporation, a member of the audio visual team, and was always ready to volunteer on any committee when asked. Lee was best known for his big smile and loving personality. Always the bright star in any room, he always made everyone feel welcome and worthy. He will be greatly missed. A memorial will be held at Countryside

Presbyterian Church, 7768 SW Highway 200 on Friday, January 20, 2017.  
The viewing will begin at 10:00 AM followed by the service at 11:00 AM. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his memory to Countryside Presbyterian Church, Blocks of Faith. Roberts Funeral Homes West Chapel 352-854-2266 made the arrangements. To leave condolences: [robertsfuneralhomes.com](http://robertsfuneralhomes.com)