



Reginald Darby

July 13, 1912 - May 26, 2009

Obituary of Reginald Darby. Reginald James Darby, 96, a very special person who always had a pleasant word for everyone, died May 26, 2009. Known for his friendly personality and playful greetings that brought smiles to everyone he encountered, Jim Darby enjoyed a long life and excelled in many pastimes over the years including fishing, golfing, bowling, and card playing. Born in Buck Lodge, MD, on July 13, 1912 to parents Reginald James Darby and Mary Dade Hays, Jim worked for Washington Gas Light Company. After serving in World War II, he and his first wife, Eloise Renshaw Darby, moved to Bivalve, MD, a rural area blessed with great people, farm-fresh produce and abundant shellfish. For many years, he and his wife ran a marine hardware store there. Following his retirement on December 31, 1974 as superintendent of Wicomico Soil Conservation District in Salisbury, MD, after 26 years of service, Jim moved to Fort Myers Beach, FL. He married the love of his life, Loretta H. Darby, in 1980 and moved to Ocala, FL, in 1981. Jim and Loretta shared an unusually deep love. For nearly 30 years, they were inseparable, holding hands every step of the way. A charter member of the Ocala West United Methodist Church, Jim was also a member of the Rainbow's End Men's Golf Association and the Pine Run Home Owners Association. Jim is survived by his wife, Loretta; daughter Ida Lee Wootten and her husband, Henry Alwyn Wootten, and two grandsons, Nathaniel Alwyn Wootten and James Darby Wootten of Charlottesville, VA. Other survivors include a step son, Richard C. Holcomb, and his wife, Brenda Lea Holcomb, of LaGrange,

OH, and six step grandchildren and twelve step great grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Jim's memory to Ocala West United Methodist Church, 9330 S. W. 105th St., Ocala, FL 34481. A memorial service will be held at Marion Woods, 1661 S. E. 31st St. in Ocala on Thursday, June 4, at 10 a.m.

Tribute Wall

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“ We met Jim and Loretta when we purchased their home in Pine Run in 2004. Since then we have gotten together for visits. Jim was a man who once you met him, you liked him and respected him as a person. We feel very privileged to have known him. Our hearts go out to Loretta. Our prayers are with you. Terry and Lea Dehn

Terry Dehn - May 31, 2009 at 12:00 AM

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“ All the staff here at Roberts Funeral Homes want to express our condolences to the family of Reginald James Darby at this difficult time.

Ann Collins - May 27, 2009 at 12:00 AM