



Etheridge Milton Killion

July 18, 1930 - June 20, 2015

Etheridge “Deacon” “DK” “EM” Killion, 84, formerly of Arab and Madison, Alabama passed away Saturday, June 20, 2015 at the Cullman Regional Medical Center from an extended battle with respiratory disease.

Etheridge was born on July 18, 1930, in Blount County as the oldest child and only son of Ernest and Ruby Killion. He had two younger sisters, Faye and Peggy Sue. Etheridge grew up on a farm during the depression, plowing behind a mule and hunting rabbits for food. During World War 2, he attended JB Pennington High School, graduating in 1947. Immediately following graduation,

Etheridge spent time in furniture sales and with the U.S. Naval Reserve. In 1950, with the war in Korea kicking off, Etheridge rushed to support his country and enlisted in the newly formed U.S. Air Force. He was trained as a security policeman and assigned to Patrick Air Force Base, Florida. After 3 years of service, Etheridge left the Air Force and, with the assistance of the G.I. Bill, entered college at what is now Jacksonville State University.

Etheridge’s time at JSU shaped him into a lifelong supporter of the university. He played offensive line for the Gamecocks and was a member of the 1955 National Championship team.

Post-graduation, Etheridge worked a variety of jobs to include coaching

football, accounting, and insurance sales. In 1964, he went to work for State Farm Insurance as a claims adjuster and stayed with the company for the next 29 years until his retirement in 1993.

Etheridge married the former Gertha Beasely in 1958 and became stepfather to Don and Dave Martin. The third son, Micah, was born in 1961 as the family lived in Birmingham, later relocating to Arab in 1964. The next 21 years in Arab were spent raising the three boys while maintaining the structural integrity of their home.

EM relocated to Huntsville and then Madison in 1985 and retired from State Farm in 1993 to settle into a life of leisure; supporting JSU football and Atlanta Braves baseball. Late in life, he relocated to Cullman for health reasons.

Etheridge Killion is survived by sons: Micah Killion, Don Martin and David Martin; grandsons: Ben and Chris Martin and great-grandson: Luke Martin and a sister: Faye McBride.

Funeral service will be 11:00 a.m. Tuesday, June 23, 2015 at Arab Heritage Memorial Chapel, Brother Randy Evers, officiating. Burial will be in Mount Tabor Cemetery in Blountsville, Alabama; Arab Heritage Memorial Chapel, directing.

Pallbearers will be Micah Killion, Don Martin, David Martin, Chris Martin, Larrell Segars and J. D. Campbell.

Visitation will be 10 to 11 a.m. also on Tuesday, June 23, 2015 at Arab Heritage Memorial Chapel.

In lieu of flowers the family has requested memorial donations be made to the American Heart Association.

Cemetery Details

Mount Tabor Cemetery - Blount County

6342 County Highway 26
Blountsville, AL 35031

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 23. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Arab Heritage Memorial Chapel
1340 North Main Street
Arab, AL 35016
(256) 586-4100

Service

JUN 23. 11:00 AM (CT)

Arab Heritage Memorial Chapel
1340 North Main Street
Arab, AL 35016
(256) 586-4100

Tribute Wall

DS

“ I knew Etherdige through State Farm, as I worked at the Alabama-Mississippi Regional Office in B'ham. When he would come to B'ham, he would always stop by to say hello, and possibly take us girls from Supply to lunch. He was truly a sweet man and will be missed by us all. RIP Etheridge.
Dana Sigler

Dana Sigler - June 23, 2015 at 07:16 AM

ST

“ I worked with Etheridge at State Farm. He was a sweetie pie! He always kept us laughing even when we were miserable! RIP sweet dear man. Much love, Sherry



sherry Tipton - June 22, 2015 at 07:49 PM

SS

“ I worked as Etheridge's secretary for years at State Farm. He was one of the best. My whole family just loved him. He is going to be missed so much. RIP EMK.
Sandy Radford Stewart

Sandy Stewart - June 22, 2015 at 02:20 PM



“ I worked with Etheridge for many years at State Farm! He was such a kind and gentle man. RIP sweet friend. You will be sorely missed!



Jane Ray - June 22, 2015 at 11:03 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of Etheridge Milton Killion.



June 22, 2015 at 09:20 AM



“ *Eugene R Phillips* purchased the *Arrive in Style* for the family of Etheridge Milton Killion.



Eugene R Phillips - June 21, 2015 at 09:38 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Etheridge Killion 1930 - 2015*



Micah Killion - June 21, 2015 at 09:13 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Etheridge Killion 1930 - 2015*



Micah Killion - June 21, 2015 at 09:13 PM

SS

That's the Etheridge I remember :-)

Sandy Stewart - June 22, 2015 at 02:22 PM

CM

“ *Mr. Killion was a good friend to us all here at Morningside of Cullman. He enjoyed taking part in activities and spending time talking with one good friend Mr. Copeland. He became a special friend to my little grandson who is 4 years old. He became a part of our family here at Morningside and he will be missed by all. He talked often about his sons and we pray God will help you through the loss of your father.*

May God shower his blessing on you.

Charlotte Maddux Activity Director at Morningside of Cullman

Charlotte Maddux - June 21, 2015 at 01:25 PM