



Clarence "Delver" Richards

December 2, 1927 - April 14, 2024

Clarence Delver Richards, age 96, passed away peacefully on Sunday, April 14th at Holzer Hospital Inpatient Hospice after several months of failing health. He was born December 2, 1927 in Bloomfield Township to the late Clarence S. Richards and Mabel E. (Davis) Richards. Welcomed into the family home by three sisters, now deceased: Evelyn Nelson, Mary Edna Zinn, and Darlene Lyons. Five brothers followed, three now deceased: Hayden Duane Richards (in infancy), John H. Richards and Alfred L. Richards. He is survived by two brothers: Glendon Richards of Springfield, Ohio and David (Kaye) Richards of Pharr, Texas. Following his graduation from Bloomfield High School in 1945, he moved to Columbus and worked at the Jeffrey Manufacturing Company. He was a faithful attendee of the Bloomfield Alumni gathering, only missing during his military service and later when his poor health made it difficult. He proudly served his country from 1950-1952 in the U.S. Army during the Korean Conflict attaining the rank of Sergeant First Class. He was a member of the 27th Infantry Division, nicknamed the "Wolf Hounds" seeing active duty at the frontlines of the war. He was a lifelong member of the American Legion Post 81. Upon returning from his military duty, he met and married the love of his life, Betty J. Bloss on July 4, 1954. They had 69 happily married years together. Surviving him, along with his wife are daughter Nina R. (Steven) Keller and son, Eric (Terri) Richards, grandson Jacob Matthew Richards and granddaughter Taylor Jordan Richards, both of Columbus. Also, foster grandsons Isiah Simmons of Columbus, Andrew

Griffith of Texas, and step-grandson Christopher Keller of Wellston. Delver was raised in the Vega Methodist Church and later joined The First Presbyterian Church of Jackson where he sang in the choir for many years, played guitar with the Praise Band and was an Elder on the Board of Session. Many Jackson residents will remember him as an agent for the Western and Southern Life Insurance Company at a time when agents had a weekly route to collect premiums and got to know the people they were collecting from. He always had coloring books for the young ones. He retired from Western and Southern after 29 years on the job. He was a member of Jackson Lions Club.

His lifelong love of music, especially country, started early in his life when his sister bought a guitar with "green stamps". He would play and sing whenever the opportunity arose. He became a popular square dance caller throughout southern Ohio, specializing in singing calls for the hoe down style of square dancing. He and Betty also were members of the Wagon Wheelers Square Dancers for 43 years and he often held dances at the Wagon Wheelers Hall. Many a weekend was spent camping and singing around the campfire with the Rolling Buckeyes and then the Jackson Camping Club. He and Betty were long time members of the National Campers and Hikers Association. Family vacations took them all over the United States. He will be remembered for his love of family, often talking with his brothers about their youth on the farm. He often said "We have had a good life, done lots of things others don't get to do, and we have a wonderful family, what more can you ask for?". Funeral services will be held Sunday, April 21st at 1:00 pm at Mayhew-Brown Funeral Home in Jackson. Burial will follow in Fairmount Cemetery. The family will receive friends on Saturday, April 20th from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm and prior to the services on Sunday. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.mayhew-brownfuneralhome.com.

Cemetery Details

Fairmount Cemetery

12 Fairmount St.
JACKSON, OH 45640

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 20. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Mayhew-Brown Funeral Home
135 Broadway Street
Jackson, OH 45640
(740) 286-4161

Funeral Service

APR 21. 1:00 PM (ET)

Fairmount Cemetery
12 Fairmont St
Jackson, OH 45640
(740) 286-2090

Tribute Wall

VA

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Shirley and Valerie Anderson

Valerie Anderson - April 21, 2024 at 10:43 AM

EG

“ Ed and Nancy Gero planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Clarence "Delver" Richards.

Ed and Nancy Gero - April 18, 2024 at 10:05 PM

EG

“ Ed and Nancy Gero purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Clarence "Delver" Richards.



Ed and Nancy Gero - April 18, 2024 at 10:05 PM



“ *May the love of God surround you and your family during this difficult time,
May you come to know that the love of God is with you always,*

May your memories of Clarence Delver Richards, give you peace, comfort and strength...

Rest now in the arms of our Lord your mission on earth is complete. I thank you for your service to our Country and my Freedom. You will not be forgotten.

*My thoughts
and prayers to the family of*

US Army Veteran, Clarence Delver Richards, is “A True American Hero” God Bless†

† Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. John 15:13 †

Cheryl Skinner, Tri-state Military Museum - April 17, 2024 at 09:27 AM