



Woodrow Granger

May 8, 1916 - December 8, 2013

Obituary of Woodrow Granger

Woodrow Wilson Granger, 97, of Leesburg completed this life on Sunday, Dec. 8 at Leesburg Regional Medical Center after a long illness. Born on May 8, 1916 in Cottonwood, Ala., he spent his childhood and formative years, including the Depression Era, in that state before making a permanent home in central Florida. He was an Army veteran of World War II, serving in both the European and Pacific Theaters including the Rhineland Campaign late in the war. He was awarded several medals and commendations including the World War II Victory Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, and the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal. He remained in the Army until 1946, when he returned to Florida to resume his work as a heavy equipment operator, including many years with the Manley Construction Company. He was part of the team that constructed the Daytona Speedway and many other important projects and developments in the area. In his retirement years, he was a well-known and beloved resident of the Palm Ridge Mobile Home Village in Leesburg, where he continued his lifetime hobbies of fishing, gardening and following professional baseball, especially the Atlanta Braves and Boston Red Sox. It was gardening that provided him with the greatest recognition in May, 2007 when, at the age of 92, he was certified by Guinness World Records for growing the tallest collard plant ever recorded, 13 feet 6 inches, in his yard in Leesburg. The record still stands and bettered the previous record by more

than four feet.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Ruby in 1984. He is survived by his daughters Mary (Rick) Cosgrove, of Leesburg, Connie (Dan Leonard) Cottengim of Ocala, and Rose(Carl)East of Ocklawha, a son, Johnny Luttrell of Alabama, a granddaughter Sheila Minks of Ocala, a grandson, Brian Keith Ahern of California, and several great and great-grandchildren. Also surviving are two sisters, Sheryl Ellis and Blonnie Skipper, and a niece, Lena Wiggins, all of Alabama. He is also mourned by beloved friends and neighbors Jim, Jay, Barbara, Tom and Charlie, as well as Toni, his cat and dear companion.

The family will host a visitation at Beyers Funeral Home, Leesburg on Sunday, Dec. 15 from 4 until 6 p.m. The funeral will be on Monday, Dec. 16 at 10 a.m. at the funeral home followed by a graveside service with military honors and interment in Lone Oak Cemetery, Leesburg.

Visitation

The family will host a visitation at Beyers Funeral Home, Leesburg on Sunday, Dec. 15 from 4 until 6 p.m.

Services

The funeral will be on Monday, Dec. 16 at 10 a.m. at Beyers Funeral Home.

Interment

A graveside service with military honors and interment in Lone Oak Cemetery, Leesburg will follow the service.

Tribute Wall

SZ

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you all. I knew Mr Grainger only a little but know of him most thru the eyes and stories that Mary and Connie have shared with me. He was a much loved father, I know that, and will be remembered fondly by all.*

Suzanne Zielinski - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

HS

“ *God bless and keep you. Thank you for sharing such a wonderful, delightful gentlemen.*

Harriett Smith-McKinney - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ *I am so sorry about Uncle Woodrow. I have some very fond memories of summers at Aunt Ruby and Uncle Woodrows house. My thoughts and prayers are with you and Mary. I love ya'll.*

Diane Stokes West - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM