



J. Ralph Carter

NOV 13, 1927 - JUN 3, 2019



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J. Ralph Carter

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J Ralph Carter, 91, a longtime resident of Lakeland, passed away June 3, 2019 in Covington, GA where he lived since 2006 with his oldest daughter, Theresa and son-in-law Mike. Born November 13, 1927, he was a graduate from Lakeland High School where he played football and baseball and was an avid Florida Gators fan. He was past district and State Director of Dixie Youth Baseball; a member of the United States Golf Association; and was a longtime field announcer for Kathleen High School Football. He was also a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church. He retired from USS Agri-Chemicals as a purchasing manager and he was a member of the National and Florida Chapter of the National Purchasing Management Association.

He is survived by his children Theresa (Mike) Hesterley; Patti (Bill) Memory; Michael (Rena) Carter; Paula (Greg) Hayes; and Jay (Jill) Carter. 11 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren also survive.

He was preceded in death by his wife Frances R. Carter

A funeral mass will be held at 10:00 am, Thursday, June 13, 2019 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, 210 W. Lemon St., Lakeland. Burial will be at Oak Hill Burial Park.



Tribute Wall

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MG

Michael D. Gantt posted:

To my cousins Terry, Patti, Michael, Paula, and Jay: I have fond memories of times spent with all of you as well as with your mom and dad. Knowing that there is a place reserved in heaven for our parents when they pass is the most comforting thought I can possibly imagine. Because of Jesus Christ, as described in the Bible, I know this is so and I sincerely hope that each of you do, too. Your dad was kind to me and I especially appreciated the warmth he showed Janie from his first introduction to her through all the years we have been together. It was also a great comfort and joy to me to see how you cared for him in his advanced years and that he was able to enjoy such a high quality of life by being with his children whom he loved so much. I was too young to remember Uncle Jim, but it was always clear to me that there was no difference in the way Uncle Ralph regarded his five children. That says a lot about a man. All best wishes, Michael and Janie Gantt

June 11 at 10:58 PM

CG

Casey And Gabo sent a Magnificent Life Spray to the Carter family.



June 10 at 9:52 AM

DS

David And Carla Silva sent a Serene Reflections Bouquet to the Carter family.



June 9 at 11:47 AM

JG

Jerry Gschwender posted:

To the family of Ralph, So sorry to hear about Ralph. I knew Ralph from his days at USS Agri-Chem and I worked at Compressed Air in Mulberry. He was always such a kind man. May he Rest In Peace. Jerry Gschwender Mulberry, Florida

June 8 at 5:50 AM



Anonymous sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Carter family.



June 6 at 10:06 AM



Tribute Wall

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Your Neighbor Drew Gidusko sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Carter family.



June 6 at 5:30 AM



Paula Hayes shared 35 photos to the **Memories Album** album.



June 5 at 12:15 PM



Mike Hesterley posted:

Father-In-Law Ralph was one of the good guys. For 12 years Ralph was a member of our household and was instrumental in convincing me that retirement was a no brainer. I'm glad I took his advice. From 1991 until 2007 brother-in-law Bill Memory and I would spend 5 days in early March with Ralph, attending various MLB spring training games. It was something Bill and I looked forward to. We would stay at his condo, eating every meal at one of the Lakeland restaurants or at the ball field. We had lots of laughs and lots of food, which suited Ralph just fine. His daughters Patti (Bill's wife) and Theresa (my wife) insisted that Bill and I took care of their daddy while we were in Lakeland, and we did just as they asked but in reality, Ralph took care of us. He was a great host, It is a memory that Bill and I will always have when we think of this wonderful man. His love for his friends, his children, his grandchildren and especially his wife Frances was something that I most admired of him. Yes, James R. Carter was a good man and one that will be missed by everyone he encountered during his journey of 91 years. He left a void that all of us will find hard to fill. GO GATORS!

June 5 at 12:15 PM



Eddie Ward June 5 at 12:38 PM

I played for coach Carter at East Lakeland little league in 61 and 62 when the field was still behind Combee Elementary school. It was a all clay infield and I played 3rd base when I wasn't pitching and coach showed me no mercy when he hit infield which made it a piece of cake when I finally played on a grass one. He was a great coach back then and later he was the game announcer at KHS football games and was great at that for many years. Then I hooked back up with him on FB and we stayed in contact thru it. My life has been blessed knowing coach all these many years. Love and going to miss you Mr. Carter.



Paula Hayes shared 35 photos to the **Memories Album** album.

June 5 at 12:33 PM





Media

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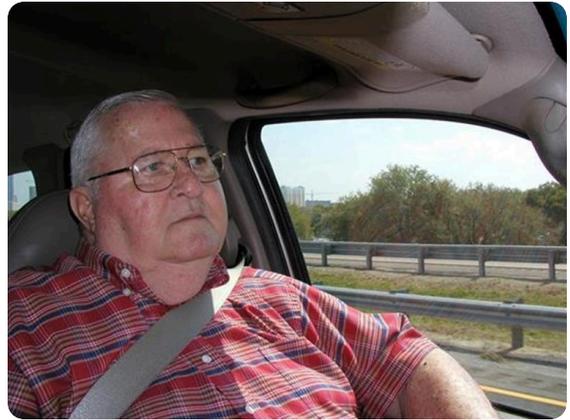




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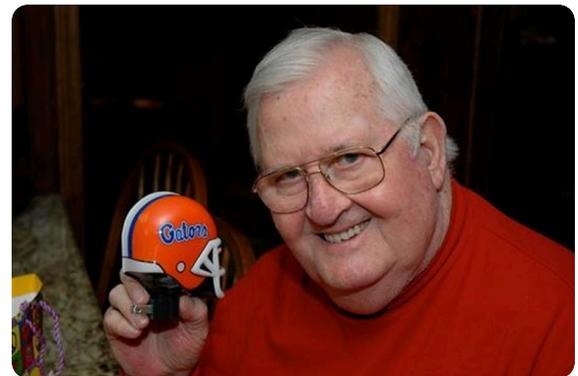
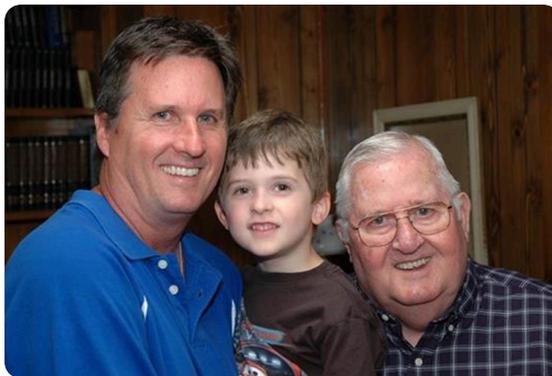
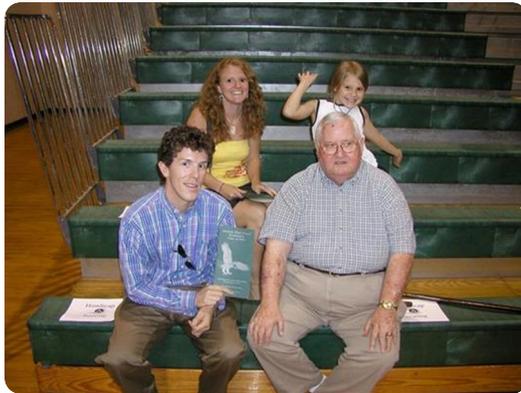




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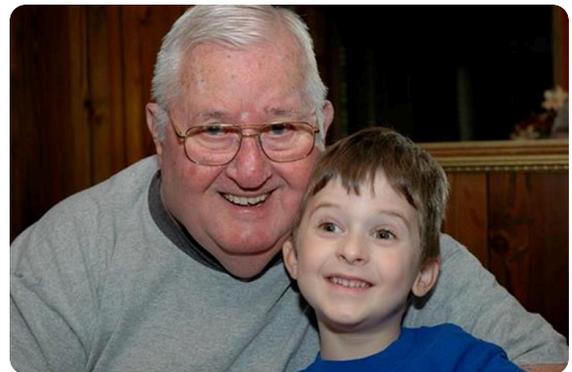
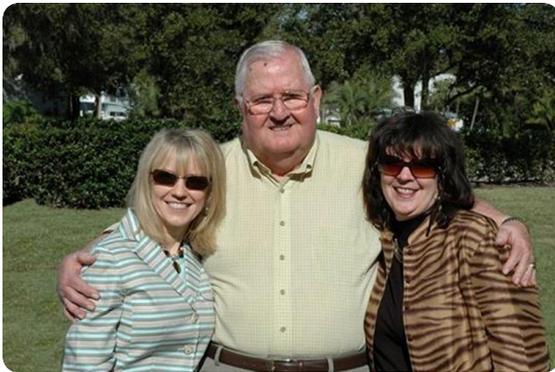




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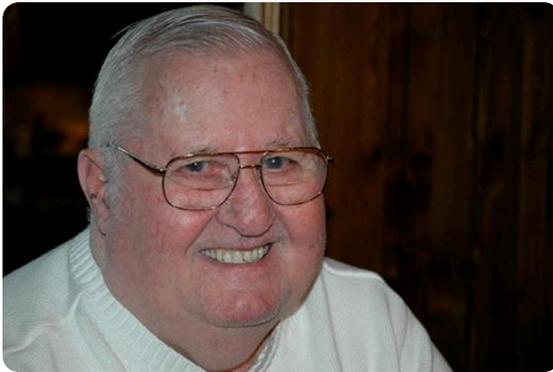
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Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring J. by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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