



John "L.J" McGatha, Jr.

April 13, 1933 - July 22, 2017

Funeral service for John "L.J." McGatha, Jr, age 84, will be Monday, July 24, 2017 at 2 p.m. at Thompson Funeral Home with the Rev. Bob Staggs officiating. The family will receive friends Monday from 12-2 p.m. at the funeral home. Burial will follow at Highland Cemetery. Mr. McGatha passed away Saturday, July 22, 2017 at his home. Survivors include his loving wife of 61 years, Shelvie Jean McGatha of Piedmont; three children, Terry McGatha (Vada), Rena Trammell and Teresa Holbrook (Kenny) , all of Piedmont; five grandchildren: Johnny McGatha (Tyler), Jeremy McGatha (Stefanie), Dustin Trammell (Lacey), Blake Trammell and Brandi Frey (Bill) ; seven great-grandchildren, Abbey McGatha, Madison Ann Holbrook, Kayliegh McGatha, Hayden McGatha, Lillie Trammell, Jack Trammell and Brylon Frey; two sisters, Polly Holmes of Rockmart, GA and Suralla Mae Pruitt of Jacksonville, and several nieces and nephews. Pallbearers will be Johnny McGatha, Jeremy McGatha, Dustin Trammell, Blake Trammell, Sid Cox and Bill Frey. Honorary pallbearers will be the Street Department of the City of Piedmont. Mr. McGatha was born April 13, 1933 in Centre and was a longtime resident of Piedmont. He was of the Holiness faith. At a young age Mr. McGatha worked on his family farm in Tennala and drove a school bus while still in school. As he started his own family he worked at Miller Chicken Farm as a supervisor and retired from the City of Piedmont with 25 years of service. Mr. McGatha's greatest love was spending time with his family and taking care of them. He always enjoyed working in his garden, which he had every year. He loved

playing his guitar and singing gospel songs at home and at church. Mr. McGatha was preceded in death by his grandson, Brandon Holbrook; parents, John and Mamie McGatha; brothers, Earl and Grady McGatha ; sisters, Mary Ann Worthy, Annie Mae Weaver, Ruby Martin, Annie Lou Hudgins, Laura Bell Burton and Ruth Holmes.