

Obituaries

Roger Routon

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The funeral service for former grocery store owner and Henry County Court member Roger William Routon of Henry will be at 1 p.m. Thursday at Henry Church of Christ, where he was a member.

Roger Graham, minister of Henry Church of Christ, and Rex Buford, minister of Como Church of Christ, will officiate. Burial, with military rites, will follow in Bevil Cemetery.

Named as pallbearers are Roy Lee Ray, Johnny Scott, Bob Anderson, Spud Hayes, Christopher Carter and Josh Hixson.

Honorary pallbearers will be James Huffman, John Harville, Ben Routon and Dave Steele.

Visitation will be 3-8 p.m. Wednesday at McEvoy Funeral Home and after 11 a.m. Thursday at the church.

Routon, 87, died Monday, Jan. 5, 2009, at Alive Hospice at Saint Thomas Hospital in Nashville.

Born Nov. 15, 1921, in Routon, he was a son of the late Everett William Routon and Nona Bucy Routon.

He was married on Sept. 19, 1942, to the former Laura Frances Hill, who died Feb. 27, 2000.

As a member of Henry Church of Christ, he served as an elder and was a Sunday school teacher for many years. He also was part of the church's nursing home ministry calling bingo once a week for shut-ins at Henry County Healthcare Center.

A graduate of Henry High School, Routon entered the U.S. Army in 1942, serving during World War II for 18 months in Alaska, where he worked on the Alaska Highway. Since Alaska had not been granted statehood at that time, his service was considered an overseas tour of duty.

Routon's military service prevented him from following the day-to-day life at Camp Tyson, the barrage balloon center constructed in Routon across from the Routon family farm.



Roger Routon

In 1959, Routon purchased a grocery store from Hulon Stockdale in the Routon community. He operated the store until 1974, when he sold it to Ralph Campbell. He also farmed in the community and was a substitute rural mail carrier.

Active in politics, Routon served on the Henry County Court, was past chairman of the Henry County Nursing Home board and a member of the County Budget committee, serving with such local leaders as John McClure, Jordan Bowden and Frank Killebrew, all now deceased.

Routon retired as a school bus driver for the Henry County Board of Education.

He leaves three daughters: Carolyn (Carey) Goodman of Henry, Angie Routon Cooper of Paris and Marilyn Routon Baker of Memphis; one brother: John B. (Lavesta) Routon of Milan; six grandchildren: Donna Blakely, Debbie Parker, Christina and Jennifer Goodman, Christopher Carter and Amanda Cooper; and eight great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the Bevil Cemetery-Roger Routon road fund, c/o Lucille Claxton, 300 Paris Harbor Drive, Paris.

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