



## Donald D. Gardner

December 10, 1929 - April 8, 2012

GARDNER, DONALD D. age 82, was surrounded by family at home when he went to be with the Lord, whom he loved, on April 8, 2012. He was born on December 10, 1929 in Westover, AL. He was one of twelve children of Buford and Alda Gardner. He was raised in Pell City, AL and attended the local schools. He joined the Army in 1948; attended Airborne Training at Fort Benning, GA and was discharged in 1951 as the rank of Sgt. First Class. He went to work at Woodward Iron Company in Bessemer, AL as a scale master from 1951 to 1971. He moved to Daytona Beach, FL in 1972 where he joined Local 295 Plumbers and Pipefitters Union, working on various projects including the Launch Complex 40 Project at Cape Kennedy; retiring in 2005 from Gardner Plumbing where he worked with his "little brother" Hershel. Don enjoyed driving stock cars through the 1950's at local tracks around Birmingham, AL and also enjoyed fishing, horseback riding, dancing and NASCAR. In 2005, he moved to Richmond Hill, GA, to live with his son for the remaining years of his life. He attended Daniel Siding Baptist Church and was a life member of Richmond Hill American Legion Post 27 and enjoyed participating with the Richmond Hill Senior Citizen Center. He was known for his outgoing, friendly personality and was never a stranger to anyone. He is survived by sons, Rick Gardner (Carla) of Richmond Hill, GA, Larry Gardner (Jerri) of Bessemer, AL; daughters, Dianne Vickers (Richard) of Cedar Park, TX, Regina Sartory (Pete) of Richmond Hill, GA; sister, Ruby Nell Oglesby of Bessemer, AL; 14 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren. Funeral services

will be held Friday, April 13, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. at Bessemer Brown Service Funeral Home with burial in Forest Grove Cemetery, Pleasant Grove, AL. Visitation will be Thursday, April 12, 2012 from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, remembrances may be sent to Hospice Savannah, P.O. Box 13190, Savannah, GA 31416.