

Today's Obituaries

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Walton Reed Mason

Funeral service for Walton Reed Mason will be held at 11 AM, Monday, July 31, 2006, at 1st Presbyterian Church, Main Street, Rising Sun, MD, with interment in Friends Burial Ground, Calvert, MD. Visitation will be held on Sunday, July 30, from 4-8 PM, at Hicks Home for Funerals, 103 W. Stockton St., Elkton, MD 21921, and on Monday beginning at 10 AM at the church. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to 1st Presbyterian Church of Rising Sun or Raymond Mueller Agricultural Scholarship Fund, c/o the funeral home.

Mr. Mason, 88, of Rising Sun, MD, died Monday, July 24, 2006, while attending the Cecil County Fair. Born near Hockessin, DE, on April 3, 1918, he was the son of the late Henry W. and Florence Reed Mason. At age 14, his family moved to a farm near Elkton, and he graduated from Elkton High School in 1936. In 1939, he married Mildred McDowell with whom he shared 55 years of marriage, until her death in 1994.

During his life, Mr. Mason was active in numerous community organizations with his participation including membership as well as leadership. He had been active in Odd Fellows of Newark, DE, Appleton Grange, Calvert Grange #424, Cecil County Farm Bureau, Leader of Calvert Boys 4-H Club - 32 years, Co Founder of the Cecil County Fair in 1953, Rising Sun Little League Committee, and President of Calvert Elementary and Rising Sun High School PTA. He was a Cecil County Commissioner (1970-1978), Board of Directors of Union Hospital, Board of Directors of Peoples Bank of Elkton, MD State Agricultural Fair Board, Southern States Board of Directors, Farm-Home Administration Board, and was a member of 1st Presbyterian Church of Rising Sun, MD.

On September 18, 1988, Woodbine Farm, the Mason family farm, was the first farm in the nation to be recognized by the USDA as a National Bi-Centennial Farm. The farm was deeded to Mrs. Mason's family, the Rogerses, in 1737 as part of William Penn's land grants and is now entered in the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation.

Survivors include his children and their spouses, Henry W. and Marilyn Mason, Calvert, MD, David B. and Anne Mason, Mt. Airy, MD, Richard R. and Kim Mason, Calvert, MD, Sally L. and Douglas Day, Fort Worth, TX, Florence M. and Ernest Bannister, Macungie, PA, Eleanor M. and Burnard Cline, Blake, MD, and Elizabeth A. "Betty" Mason, Calvert, MD; 12 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; sisters, Marie Hartman, Chambersburg, PA and Margaret Taylor, Hilton Head, SC; and several nieces and nephews. In addition to his wife, he was preceded in death by his, brother, Robert.