



## Lester Cleveland Irby

November 15, 1928 - March 7, 2019

Lester Cleveland Irby peacefully passed away on March 7, 2019 at the age of 90 with his family by his side. He was born November 15, 1928 in Wimauma, FL to Grover Cleveland and Shala Irby. He is survived by his cherished and loving wife of 65 years, Mae K. Irby and his three children Jim Irby (Christina), Carol Irby, and Janis Irby (all of New Orleans LA), as well as three grandchildren. He is predeceased by his parents and son, Richard Irby.

Lester graduated from Bay County High School in Panama City, FL and enlisted in the United States Army in 1950, serving one year in Germany during the Korean War. Being a self-made man, he opened his own appliance store in 1971 in Orlando FL and relocated to Madison FL in 1980 "" finally retiring in 2010.

In addition to spending time with his family and friends, Lester enjoyed gardening, fishing, and all things FSU football. He and Mae were season ticket holders for more than 20 years, rarely missing a home game and traveling to many away games. Most home games would find Lester tailgating and talking football to most anyone who would listen.

He was a member of Rocky Springs UMC and was devoted to his church "" and church family.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 11:00 Saturday morning, March 16th, at Rocky Springs United Methodist Church, 305 NE Rocky Springs Church Rd., Madison FL 32340. Light refreshments will be served in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the service where everyone is encouraged to share fond memories of this special husband, father, and friend.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Rocky Springs United Methodist Church or a charity of your choice. Donations to Rocky Springs UMC should be mailed in care of Peggy Rykard, 3805 NW Little Cat Rd., Madison FL 32340.

# Tribute Wall

EL

“ I knew Les Irby in Orlando. I worked at Ellis Drug Store, and used to see him sometimes at his vacuum cleaner place there. I later moved to Tallahassee, and was totally stunned one day when visiting my parents in Madison, to see that Les then had a vacuum cleaner place in MADISON! I went right down there, and bought my first vacuum cleaner from him (a refurbished Hoover). It was so wonderful to see Les again; he was so nice! I also was in his daughter Janice's class in high school. Les was always smiling and laughing every time I saw him; that is how I always remember him. My best to the family and Godspeed to Les Irby!

*Elaine*

---

**Elaine** - July 23, 2021 at 11:22 PM