



James D. Blankenship

August 5, 1927 - April 23, 2011

James D. Blankenship, age 81, and longtime Grand Ledge area resident, passed away April 23, 2011 in Troy, Michigan. James was born August 5, 1929 in Conway, Missouri to the late Frank and Clara (Gann) Blankenship. He served in the Navy from 1946 through 1950 and was later employed, as a computer programmer, by Diamond Reo and Oldsmobile in Lansing. He enjoyed golfing and gardening and was a lifelong supporter of the educational pursuits of his children and grandchildren. His wife of 57 years, Edith and sister, Frances, preceded him in death. He is survived by his children, Linda (Ray) Leyko, Brent (Sherry) Blankenship, Susan and Lori Blankenship; grandchildren, Aaron, Beth, Jenny, Jamie, Lucas, Jana, Travis, Trenton, and Hunter.; and great grandchild, Maddox. He is also survived by his sister, Alice (Jim) Keesling and numerous nephews and nieces, including Sharon Smith. The family will receive friends Saturday, April 30, 2011 at the Holihan-Atkin Funeral Home, Grand Ledge, 12:00 pm until the time of the funeral service at 1:00 pm. Interment with military honors will follow at Oakwood Cemetery, Grand Ledge. Memorial contributions may be given to the American Heart Association 2140 University Park, Suite 210 Okemos, MI 48864. Online guest book entries may be made at www.holihanatkin.com

Cemetery Details

Oakwood Cemetery

299 Halbert Street
Grand Ledge, MI 48837

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 30. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Holihan-Atkin-Barclay Funeral Home & Cremation Services
406 N. Bridge Street
Grand Ledge, MI 48837
(517) 627-2531
jasonbarclay@holihanatkin.com
<https://www.holihanatkin.com>

Service

APR 30. 1:00 PM (ET)

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Tribute Wall

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“ Jim certainly DID enjoy golfing and gardening! Jim invited me to join the Monday Morning Senior league and I was his golf partner for several years. He could always hit it straight down the fairway. Jimbo loved to garden and he especially loved our tomato contest. He was usually the winner... the first to have a red tomato. He would save seeds, plant them, nurse the plants along, put them outside in the sun and take them in at night . He would plant them in the ground when it got warmer. I didn't have a chance! But, once in a while, I would beat him. Many people at Oldsmobile knew about our tomato contest. Gary the barber would comment about it too. Jim was a good man and I miss him.

Neil Miller

Neil Miller - April 29, 2011 at 09:01 AM