



Mr. Howard Dewitt Chapman

December 15, 1921 - January 6, 2013

Howard DeWitt Chapman was born December 15, 1921 and passed away Sunday, January 6, 2013. He was born in Hartsville, SC to the late Charlie and Pauline Griggs Chapman.

He and his wife, Bessie K. Chapman met and married when they were very young and celebrated 70 years of marriage in 2008.

In September of 1943, after working at Sonoco, he volunteered for service during World War II. On a path to become a pilot, he passed tests for the Aviation Cadet Corps, and completed basic training in Miami and was assigned to a B-17 crew in Columbus, OH. He was then sent to the University of Pittsburg to complete Cadet training. After several months he received orders to go to San Antonio, TX for preflight training and then on to Amarillo, TX for engineering training. From one side of the country to the other for a very young man who had never been out of SC. His class was able to do some flying, but before he completed his training, word came of the Japanese surrender. They were told to sign up for postwar service or that the ones who had volunteered could go home.

In 1949, he entered the National Guard in Hartsville and served in various units until he retired from active duty in 1969. He continued in the Reserved Corps until 1975 when he retired as a Lieutenant Colonel. Through the years he was active in many businesses, primarily finance and real estate, always with his wife, Bessie at his side.

He was preceded in death by his brother, Harry Chapman of Hartsville; sister,

Margie Watson of Atlanta, GA; sister-in-law Lucille Chapman of Hartsville. In addition to his widow, he is survived by his daughter, Ann Brown; grandsons, Ron (Renee) Brown, Mark Brown; granddaughter, Elizabeth "Bess" Brown; and the "light in his life" great-grandchildren, Sadie and Cameron. Other survivors include his brother, Raymond (Retha) Chapman of Hartsville; sister-in-law, Margie Spires of Hartsville; brother-in-law, C.E. Spires of Salisbury, NC, several nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be made to the First Baptist Church, 104 E. Home Ave., Hartsville, SC 29550, or to Hospice Care of South Carolina, 401 N. Fifth St. Hartsville, SC 29550. The family would like to thank Hospice Care of South Carolina and feels that they will be forever indebted to them for their care, comfort, and support during the last few weeks.

Funeral services will be held at 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 9, 2013 at the First Baptist Church Chapel with entombment in Westview Memorial Park Mausoleum. The family will receive friends from 5 to 7p.m. Tuesday, January 8, 2013 at Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home.

Cemetery Details

Westview Memorial Park Cemetery

2223 Kelleytown Road
Hartsville, SC 29550
info@bpafuneralhome.com

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 8. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home
306 W. Home Ave.
Hartsville, SC 29550
(843) 332-6531
info@bpafuneralhome.com
<http://www.bpafuneralhome.com>

Service

JAN 9. 2:00 PM (ET)

First Baptist Church Chapel
104 E. Home Ave.
Hartsville, SC

Tribute Wall

CN

“ Sorry to hear of Mr. Chapman. I met Mr. Chapman at the Retired National Guard meetings we use to have years ago. He had a wonderful personality and I enjoyed talking to him about our years in service. My prayers will be with the family.

Chris Norton - January 25, 2013 at 05:05 PM

AP

“ Raymond, Retha, Mac and Cindy - our sympathies for your loss. Thinking of you , Kimrey, Ann Marie, and Will Pennington

Ann Marie Pennington - January 15, 2013 at 07:49 AM

RB

“ Rita P. Brunson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Howard Dewitt Chapman



Rita P. Brunson - January 07, 2013 at 09:52 PM

RP

“ Rayford & Carolyn Pait lit a candle in memory of Mr. Howard Dewitt Chapman



Rayford & Carolyn Pait - January 07, 2013 at 11:30 AM



“ *Kenneth Longrie, Jr lit a candle in memory of Mr. Howard Dewitt Chapman*



Kenneth Longrie, Jr - January 07, 2013 at 04:25 AM

KS

“ *Kathryn Newsom Suggs lit a candle in memory of Mr. Howard Dewitt Chapman*



Kathryn Newsom Suggs - January 06, 2013 at 05:51 PM

NG

“ *Nicole R Griffitts lit a candle in memory of Mr. Howard Dewitt Chapman*



Nicole R Griffitts - January 06, 2013 at 03:37 PM