

THE MASTER'S PAINTBRUSH

In the cold of a winter's day
Trees appear lifeless and dead in the sun's ray.
They stand without the splendor of colors of fall,
They stand naked, gray, cold, dormant and all.
Then comes the warmth of a spring morning,
The swelling buds will soon burst forth to blooms.
They stand to welcome life back real soon,
From buds to blooms, to leaf, the tree springs back to glory and shade.
They stand ready to cool us in her shade
And her canopy of leaves covers from the sun.
A breeze of the wind cools us,
With air conditioning by nature.
Then in the fall her splendors she will wear,
From the green of spring she turns red, yellow, orange and crimson.
Her Royal majesty and the coats of many colors,
Like the whisk of an artist's brush to color the hills.
For each, your intimate beauty we enjoy
For just a little while.
But we know the Master's stroke will be ready again,
To spread the colors we so enjoy.
We too, are like the circle of nature,
Come to life as the swelling of the buds in the spring
Sprouting our growth as a branch reaching for the sun,
We are graceful, innocent and beautiful for a while.
But we too reach the autumn of our being,
As with the beauty of nature, we lose the beauty of youth.
Ageing, slowing, losing our grace and,
One day we will be gone.
I too have reached the fall of my life cycle.
The hair of my head is leaving as the leaves left the branches.
My limbs are becoming stiff and creeks as a dead tree branch,
My glory days are numbered with nature's cycle.
We are each created by His brush,
Created beautiful in His sight.
We come, we grow, we bloom and we die,
Life is beautiful and live to the fullest for.
One day I will be gone,
And I hope my seedlings are honorable, straight and beautiful.
My life has been good, painted by the Master's hand and brush,
I pass on my heredity to those who follow, One's Child.

Peebles Fayette County
Funeral Homes & Cremation Center

Somerville and Oakland, Tennessee
(901) 465-3535 www.PeeblesFuneralHome.com

Beauch *fu*



In Memory Of

*Billy Franklin
Couch*

July 24, 1930
September 14, 2020

Billy Franklin Couch, age 90, resident of Bartlett and husband of the late Joyce Ann McDaniel Couch, departed this life Monday morning, September 14, 2020 at the Ave Maria Home in Bartlett.

Billy was born July 24, 1930 in Gibson County, Tennessee, the son of George Franklin Couch and Minnie Gertrude Robinson Couch. He graduated from Milan High School in 1948 and served his country in the United States Army during the Korean Conflict. Billy was married April 18, 1954 to Joyce Ann McDaniel and he was a former resident of Memphis and Eads. He was employed as a federal bank examiner and was an independent banking consultant for many years before his retirement. He was a member of Bellevue Baptist Church in Cordova where he was an active member of his Sunday School class, "The Family of Friends" and R.O.M.E.O. Billy enjoyed writing and working in his yard.

Mr. Couch is survived by two daughters, Vickie Joyce Gentry (Wayne) of Blue Springs, MS and Denise Couch VanderSteege (Russ) of Eads, TN; his son, Darrell Lee Couch (Cheryl) of Oxford, MS; his sister, Ava Frances Gates of Yorkville, TN; five grandsons, Jeremy Gentry (Amber) of Tupelo, MS, William Baxter Gentry (Alisha) of Blue Springs, MS, Jon VanderSteege (Laura Alice) of Jackson, MS, Stephen VanderSteege (Sarah) of Memphis, TN and Daniel VanderSteege (Katie) of Memphis, TN; and many loving great-grandchildren.

The family requests that memorials be directed to the Ave Maria Home, 2805 Charles Bryan Road, Memphis, TN 38134 or by going to <https://avemariahome.org/>.

Condolences may be left on our online guestbook at
www.PeeblesFuneralHome.com.

In Memory Of
*Billy Franklin
Couch*

Entered This Life

July 24, 1930

Departed This Life

September 14, 2020

Funeral Service

2 P.M. Friday ~ September 18, 2020

Peebles West Funeral Chapel

Oakland, Tennessee

Officiating Minister

Bro. Sam McElroy

Interment with Military Honors

Fayette County Memorial Park

Oakland, Tennessee

Pallbearers

Jeremy Gentry, William Baxter Gentry, Jon VanderSteege,
Stephen VanderSteege, Daniel VanderSteege and Robert Brown