

IRVIN, Robert J. Age 82, a resident of Warrior, AL, died on Tuesday, August 16, 2011 of cancer and heart attack. He was born on June 10, 1929 in Florence, AL to Robert (Senior) and Josephine Henry Irvin. He began a long career in the railroad industry, and organized labor in 1947 with the Tennessee Central Railway. After transferring his employment to the Louisville & Nashville Railroad in 1950, he worked as Agent-Operator and Train Dispatcher until 1971, when he was appointed Southeast Vice President of the American Train Dispatchers Association. He became President in 1986, and retired from that post in 1995 after having served 48 years in the Railroad Industry, he then became Labor Arbitrator, also worked 5 years for Phar-America delivering medicines to nursing homes, and 2 years as a clerk at Best Western Hotel in Gardendale, AL, and in 2004, was asked to be the minister at the Union Hill Church of Christ in Cullman County, AL. He continued arbitration until 2010, and preaching until August 7th, 2011. He served in the United States Army from 1950 until 1952, assigned to the Signal Corps and the Transportation Corps in the Free Territory of Trieste. He was also in the Navy about 1946 for a year. Graduated from Coffee High in Florence, AL. He was preceded in death by his parents and stepbrother, Doug McCall. He is survived by his wife of 55 1/2 years, Maibell Adgent Irvin; daughters, Beverly Scott and Gwendolyn (Jon) Sanders; son, Glenn (Kathy) Irvin; half brother, Joseph (Sherri) Darveaux; stepmother, Myrtle Irvin of Callaway, FL; stepsisters, Carolyn Reynolds and Joyce (Norman) Todd; stepbrother, Frank McCall; six grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and two nephews. Visitation was Thursday, August 18th, 2011 from 6 until 8 p.m., at Messmer Goodwin Funeral Home. Services were at 2 p.m. on Friday, August 19th, 2011 with Bro. Lonnie Ingram presiding. Pallbearers were Keith Parker, Christopher Sanders, Jon Sanders, Michael Sanders, Jack Scott and Chris Wilson. Burial followed at Union Hill Cemetery in Cullman County. MESSMER GOODWIN FUNERAL HOME, (205) 647-0253.