

Deceased Name: MELVIN J. COOPER, SR. (Age 74)

On Thursday, August 8, 2002, in Upper Marlboro, MD. Beloved husband of 51 years to Audrey James Cooper. Devoted father of Margie Washington of Hampton, Virginia; Michael of Burtonsville, Maryland; Sidney of Upper Marlboro, Maryland; and Melvin Jr. of Avondale, Arizona. Son of the late Philip Cooper, Sr. and Lena Fink Cooper of Algiers, Louisiana. Brother of the late Lillian Forbes, Evelyn Jackson, Philip Jr., Raymond, Thurston, and Alvin Cooper. Brother-in-law to the late Oscar, Monroe, and Godfrey James. Survived by four sisters, two sisters of Our Holy Family, Sister Mary Daniel and Sister Mary Mildred, Earline Jean, Dorothy White and one brother, Toronto. Father-in-law of Brenda Johnson Cooper and Joe Washington. Brother-in-law of Helen Crawford, Patrick James, Margie Rose, Marion Steib, Elouise Myre, Charles James, Marva Magee, Glynn, and Aldon James. Melvin Sr. was born December 20th, 1927 in Algiers Louisiana. He entered the United States Army Air Corps in 1946 and served his country for over 22 years with assignments at Brady AFB, Okinawa; Japan, Evereux AFB, France; RAF Alconbury, England; Travis AFB, California; Bolling AFB and Andrews AFB, Washington, D.C. Master Sergeant Cooper served as an Ammunition Supply Technician, receiving and Shipping Foreman, and overall warehouse supervisor. His military awards and decorations include the Air Force Commendation Medal, the United Nations Service Medal, the Korean Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Air Force Good Conduct Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster, and the Air Force Longevity Service Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters. He retired from the United States Air Force in 1968. As a veteran of World War II, Korea, and Vietnam, he transitioned to civilian life and contributed another 20 years to the General Services Administration, in Franconia, Virginia and Washington, D.C. as a Furnishings Management Coordinator, purchasing, transferring, and disposing of millions of dollars of furnishings and equipment for a myriad of government agencies. He leaves to mourn his wife Audrey; four children, four grandchildren, one great-grandchild, and a host of other relatives and friends. The funeral mass was held on Monday, August 12 at All Saints Church on Teche Street, Gretna, LA, with interment in Algiers, LA, with Full Military Honors. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to The Fisher House, at Andrews AFB, MD (a home for family members of patients hospitalized at Malcolm Grow Medical Center). Arrangements by Davis Mortuary, Gretna, LA.