

Howard L. Edwards

Howard L. Edwards, 89, of Owosso, formerly of Harbor Beach, died on Aug. 7, 2013, surrounded by his family.

Howard was born Dec. 14, 1923, the son of Floyd A. and Katherine A. (Frank) Edwards in Harbor Beach. On Jan. 7, 1961, he married Lovica "Vicky" Woodruff and had two daughters, Kathryn and Kimberly. Vicky predeceased Howard two months before their 20th wedding anniversary in November 1980.

He then married Verna L. (Ewing) Silvers on Dec. 18, 1982 and welcomed five step-sons into his family, Guy, Rod, Darrin, Allan and Mark. Howard and Verna enjoyed nearly 27 years of marriage before Verna's death in October 2009.

Howard and his four siblings were raised on a farm during the depression and were no strangers to hard work. He became a seaman with the Merchant Marines on the Great Lakes in 1940. He returned to the Great Lakes after World War II, where he had served in the South Pacific Theater. Howard retired in 1985 from the Merchant Marines after serving on several ships during his career.

Howard loved to "people watch", play his harmonica, tell jokes and make paper boats. He always had a smile and a laugh ready for anyone who would open their heart to him. Howard had a big heart and a lot of compassion for people.

He was a member of Gilead Baptist Church of Owosso, a life member of VFW Post No. 4005 and the American Legion.

He is survived by his daughters, Kathryn J. Edwards and Kimberly L. (Ronald) Pearsall; step-sons, Rod (Rose) Silvers, Darrin (Karen) Silvers, Allan (Connie) Silvers and Mark Silvers; 18 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren; many friends, cousins, nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his parents; both wives; sister, Marie (Louise) Koehn of Harbor Beach; brother, Frank (Alice) Edwards of Baltimore, Md.; sister, Eleanor (Charlie) Schroeder of Standish; twin brother, Harold Edwards of Harbor Beach; step-son, Guy Silvers; brother-in-law, James "Woody" Woodruff; brother-in-law, Ray Ewing.

Funeral services will take place at 1 p.m. Monday, Aug. 12, 2013 at Nelson-House Funeral Home with Pastor Thadd Sparrow officiating. Burial will follow at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens.

Visitation with the family will from 2 to 8 p.m. on Sunday at Nelson-House Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions are suggested to the Long Term Care Unit at Memorial Healthcare or the Alzheimer's Foundation.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at $\underline{\text{Nelson-House.com}}$.