McGeachy, Claude E.

Claude E. McGeachy, 79, of Harbor Bluffs, went home to be with the Lord Monday, May 12, 2008.

Born in Bad Axe on July 13, 1928, Claude attended Cleary College and University of Wisconsin. Claude moved his family to Belleair in 1967. Claude, a prominent and highly respected banker, was devoted to his wife and family, was an active member of Calvary Baptist Church, and contributed much to his community. Claude served as president of Pinellas Central Bank in Largo until it was purchased by Southeast Bank 1974. At Southeast he served in the capacities of bank president until in 1988, when he returned to his passion of neighborhood banking, starting Pinellas Community Bank where he served as president, CEO and chairman of the board until his retirement in 1994. Claude's many affiliations and honors included Largo Citizen of the Year (1992), Florida Banker's Association Meritorious Service Award, president of the Greater Largo Chamber of Commerce, president of the Bad Axe and Largo Rotary chapters, and chairman of the board of Largo Medical Center. Claude was a Leadership Tampa Alumni and served as a director in such organizations as Pinellas County Committee of 100, United Way of Pinellas, Salvation Army, Suncoast Chamber of Commerce, Largo Library Foundation and numerous banking associations.

As accomplished as Claude was in his career and civic activities, what was most important to him was his faith and his family. He was a devoted and loving husband, a wonderful father and grandfather.

Claude is survived by his wife Hilda; daughter, Claudia Delgado; son, Tom (Christy) McGeachy; and grandchildren, Amanda, Max and Heather; brother, Duane (Yvonne) McGeachy of Walled Lake; and sister, Barbara Krohn of Elkton; brothers-in-law, Ned Bobo of Racine, Wis., and Jerry (Jean) Bobo of Seattle, Wash.

Funeral service and burial will be private.

A visitation will be conducted from 5 to 7 p.m. on Friday, May 16 at Moss Feaster Funeral Home, 13401 Indian Rocks Road, Largo, Fla.

Donations may be made to Hospice of the Florida Suncoast, 5771 Roosevelt Blvd., Clearwater, FL 33760.