

Robert Lee Jordan, 77, Chairman of the Board of R.L. Jordan Oil Company in Spartanburg, S.C., and Jordan Properties in Myrtle Beach, S.C., died Monday, Dec. 4, 2006, in Las Vegas, Nev.

Born Dec. 12, 1928, in Calhoun Falls, S.C., he was the son of the late Wilton Lee and Cora Holden Jordan.

After attending high school in Greenville, S.C., and later in Akron, OH, Mr. Jordan joined the United States Army at the end of WWII. Based on his previous work experience, the Army assigned him to run a large hotel in Tokyo, Japan. He was proud to serve his country and achieved the rank of Sergeant. He sent money home to his mother every paycheck, which she saved for him.

When he returned in 1950, Jordan took that money and started what would later become R.L. Jordan Oil Company in Spartanburg. Jordan Oil Company owns and operates the Hot Spot convenience stores in North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia. In 1985, he started Jordan Properties, which currently operates the Crown Reef Resort in Myrtle Beach and the Highlands Suites Hotel and Mountain High Lodge in Highlands.

Jordan's independent entrepreneurial spirit was aided greatly by his personality. He was the kind of person that never met a stranger and respected people from all walks of life. He was genuinely interested in listening to people tell their stories, and for him, listening was time well spent. Mr. Jordan resided in Las Vegas, Highlands and Myrtle Beach. He was an avid poker player and private pilot for more than 35 years. Jordan Oil Company has also been active in Habitat for Humanity of Spartanburg for more than five years and has helped build four houses in the Spartanburg area. He also actively supported many charities, locally and nationally. Jordan was predeceased by half-brothers, James Hyatt and John Henry Hyatt.

He is survived by his longtime loving friend, Delphia LaFern Yaden; his five children and their spouses, his 11 grandchildren and one great-grandchild: Cora Wavelyn Jordan and her daughters Lindsey Marie Deweese and her son Cameron Alan Kimsey; Paige Jordan Deweese and Whitney Wavelyn Robinson, all of Spartanburg; Jeanne Lee Jordan Cook, her husband Kenneth C. Cook of Mansfield, Ga., and daughter, Jessica Lee Clary of Savannah, Ga.; Wilton Lee Jordan II, his wife Vivian Whang Jordan, and their children Wilton Lee Jordan, III, Clayton Allen Jordan, and Hannah Laura Elizabeth Jordan, all of Spartanburg; Elizabeth Anne Jordan Gladson and Michael Lee Gladson and their daughters Ashley Anne Gladson and Rebekah Lynn Gladson, all of Cooley Springs, S.C.; and David Allen Jordan and Lynn Carman Jordan and their children Robert Lee Jordan II and Mary Carman Jordan, all of Spartanburg; and their mother, Jean Capps Jordan; as well as hundreds of loyal and faithful employees.

Visitation was held Saturday, Dec. 9, from 5 to 7 p.m., at Floyd's Greenlawn Chapel.

Funeral services were held Sunday, Dec. 10, at 2 p.m., at Floyd's Greenlawn Chapel.

A private family interment was held Monday, Dec. 11, at Woodlawn Memorial Park in Greenville, S.C.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Habitat for Humanity of Spartanburg, P.O. Box 18172, Spartanburg, SC 29318.

An online guest register is available at www.floydmortuary.com.

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