

James Weldon Lanning Sr., 80, of Rabun Gap, died Sunday, July 15, 2007.

He was born in Asheville, N.C., to Walter E. and Maude Barnes Lanning. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He was a member of Junaluska Masonic Lodge No. 45 and Oasis Shrine Temple. He volunteered at FAITH for more than 12 years. He was an avid sports fan. He was a member and elder of Wiley Presbyterian Church.

He was preceded in death by two granddaughters, Holly Lanning on June 10, 2003, and Theresa Lanning Townsend on Dec. 11, 2004.

Survivors include: his wife of 61 years, Barbara Sutton Lanning; a son and daughter-in-law, James W. Lanning Jr. and Starlett Lanning of Rabun Gap; a granddaughter, Angela Lanning of Franklin, N.C.; six great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Funeral services were held Tuesday at Macon Funeral Home in Franklin with the Rev. Alice Wood officiating. Graveside services were held at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Forest Lawn Memorial Park in Enka, N.C. Honorary pallbearers were Walter Gordon, Bill Peacock, Reno Fountain, Bill Cramley, Bob Golding and Marshall Henson.

Memorial donations may be made to the Wiley Presbyterian Church Building Fund, Old Highway 441 South, Wiley, GA 30581; or Regency Hospice, 434 Meeks Ave., P.O. Box 494, Blairsville, GA 30512.

Macon Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements. An online register is available at www.maconfuneralhome.com.

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