

Archie N. McKay, 67, of Sky Valley, died Thursday, March 31, 2005, while on an extended visit to Nevada.

He was born in Wilcox County. He was a journalist who worked as reporter, managing editor and editor at The Tifton Gazette, The Cordele Dispatch, The Macon Telegraph and The Valdosta Daily Times. He won numerous journalistic awards during his career and was a contributing columnist to The Clayton Tribune. He served in the U.S. Army from 1957-60, spending most of his time in Germany.

He was active in communities in which he lived. He belonged to Big Brothers while in Macon, and served on the Lowndes County and South Georgia library boards and the YMCA board of directors while in Valdosta. He was a member of First Baptist Church of Valdosta. He and wife Cuba co-authored "A Pictorial History of Rabun County" for the Rabun County Historical Society in 2003. He was an avid ham radio operator and a private pilot.

Survivors include: his wife, Cuba Spivey McKay of Sky Valley; a daughter and a son-in-law, Janis McKay and Bill Bematis of Las Vegas; a son, Archie N. "Nick" McKay Jr. of Chattanooga, Tenn.; two sisters, Ellen McLeod of Tifton and Lillian Masters of Cordele; and cousins, nieces and nephews.

A memorial service is planned for 2 p.m. April 16 at the Chapel of Sky Valley. Memorial contributions can be made to the American Heart Association, American Cancer Society or another charity.

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