

C.J. "Buck" Phillips, 85, of Clayton, died Wednesday, May 28, 2008, at Northeast Georgian Medical Center in Gainesville.

He was born March 10, 1923, in Rabun County to Clarence and Lavonia Azilee Trusty Phillips. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He was a carpenter. He was a volunteer firefighter with Clayton Fire Department, and a volunteer for Habitat for Humanity and the Rabun County Rescue Squad. He was a member of Clayton Baptist Church for more than 50 years. He served as a deacon and was a member of the Friendship Sunday school class.

He was preceded in death by: a son, Charles Jay Phillips; a brother, Bill Phillips; and four sisters, Nellie Mae Wilbanks Taylor, Azilee English and two other sisters who died at a young age.

Survivors include: his wife, Ann Ramey Phillips of Clayton; a daughter, Terri Phillips Mentzer of Lakemont; a grandson, Billy Edwards of Otto, N.C.; and three sisters, Janie Parker and Bertha McKay, both of Clayton, and Ethel Queen of Charlotte, N.C.

Funeral services were held Saturday at Clayton Baptist Church with the Rev. Joey Thompson officiating. Burial followed at Rabun Memory Park with military honors performed by Disabled American Veterans Chapter 15 and American League Post 220.

Hunter Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements. An online guestbook is available at www.hunterfuneralhomega.com.

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