

Mr. Earl Atwood Benson Jr.

March 24, 1928 - January 25, 2008

Earl Atwood Benson, Jr. - a native and lifelong resident of Mobile, AL died January 25, 2008 in his home at Gordon Oaks Retirement Center in Mobile, AL. He is preceded in death by his parents Earl Atwood Benson, Sr. and Page Stuart Benson. He is survived by his two daughters Melinda Page Benson of Myrtle Beach, SC and Kathryn Benson O'Connor (John) of Roswell, GA; four grandchildren: Gregory Michael Smith, Jr. and Taylor Reed Smith of Conway, SC, John Stuart O'Connor and Vivian Page O'Connor of Roswell, GA; his former wife Doris Davis Benson of Mobile and several cousins, nieces and nephews. Mr. Benson graduated from Marion Military Institute in 1945. After graduation, he joined the Merchant Marines. He served eight years in the Naval Reserves and then two years active duty in the Navy aboard the USS Muliphen AK-A 61 as the engineering officer. He owned a diesel engine business in Mobile. He then returned to the maritime shipping business as a Chief Engineer until his retirement in 1990. Following his retirement he served as a volunteer for several years at the Dauphin Island Sea Lab. He was a member of the Propeller Club in Mobile, the Marine Engineer Beneficial Assoc. and several mystic societies. Visitation will be held Thursday, January 31, 2008 from 10:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. with a memorial service at 11:00 at Trinity Episcopal Church, 1900 Dauphin St., Mobile, AL. A private graveside service for the immediate family members will be held at Pine Crest Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Salvation Army, 1009 Dauphin St. Mobile, AL 36604, St. Francis Episcopal Church 401 Key St. Dauphin Island, AL or Trinity Episcopal Church, 1900 Dauphin St., Mobile, AL 36606.