



North Charleston, South Carolina

Ralph Bray - Entered into eternal rest on the afternoon of May 7, 2002, Ralph E. Bray, widower of Hazel Virginia Gatlin Bray. Residence was North Charleston, SC. The relatives and friends are invited to attend his funeral services at the graveside, Carolina Memorial Gardens, Saturday morning, May 11, 2002, at 10 o'clock. Mr. Bray was born in Charleston, SC, April 15, 1918, a son of the late Joseph and Eugenia Gibson Bray. He was a graduate of Gadsden County High School, class of 1936 in Quincy, FL. Mr. Bray entered the United States Navy in July of 1940, and served over 20 years retiring in 1967 as a Chief Petty Officer. Mr. Bray had served on the USS Grayson, (DD435) a ship built at the Charleston Naval Shipyard and commissioned in February 1941. As a plank owner "holder" that ship saw much activity in World War II, to note that after her commission, she was plunged immediately into the dangerous and unexciting work of getting war goods through German submarine waters to England. The Grayson was honored by participation in the first major assault against the Japanese Empire when he served as escort for the USS Hornet and Doolittle's Tokyo Raid flyers in 1942. She also sank a Japanese submarine in 1942 as well as eight Japanese planes were fallen by her guns. He was a life member of the Elks Lodge #242, B.P.O. and a Methodist. After retirement from active duty Mr. Bray pursued a career at Pomplant, Charleston Naval Weapons Station in the supply department. Surviving Mr. Bray are his daughter, C. Sue Bray of North Charleston, SC, nephew, Dr. James Owens of Tallahassee, FL, a grandson and great-granddaughter. In lieu of flowers, the family request that memorials be made to Pet Helpers, 1430 Folly Road, Charleston, SC 29412. Arrangements by J. HENRY STUHR, INC., GREENRIDGE ROAD CHAPEL, 2180 Greenridge Road, North Charleston, SC.