

## JESSE JAMES STAFFORD

Jesse James Stafford, 84, a lifelong resident Pensacola, died Friday, February 9, 2001 at a local hospital.

Mr. Stafford was born May 3, 1916 in Lillian, Baldwin County, Alabama.

He was the grandson of Jesse James and Susan Reeder Stafford of Baldwin Co., Ala. and Thomas Jefferson and Tabitha Butts Cooper, Baldwin Co., Ala. He was the son of Joseph and Sybeal Cooper Stafford, and was preceded in death by his brothers, Floyd, Smith, Roosevelt and Van Pelt Stafford and a sister, Anne Stafford Lyda.

Mr. Stafford was a graduate of Baltimore School of Navigation, Baltimore, Md. and was licensed to operate any tonnage ship in any waters in the world.

He was a member of the US Merchant Marine Corp. and served in the US Navy during WWII.

Mr. Stafford retired from US Civil Service, NAS Pensacola, after 33 years.

He was confirmed in St. John's Episcopal Church, Warrington and served on its vestry at one time. He was an active member of Seminole Pentecostal Church, Seminole, Ala.

Mr. Stafford is survived by his wife of 62 years, Eve Mae Cobb Stafford; a daughter and son-in-law, Carol Stafford Foss (Richard B. Sr.); sons, Ronald J. Stafford of Pensacola and Richard Curtis Stafford Sr. (Sharon) of Mobile, Ala.; two adopted daughters, Sarah Stafford Somerby (Charles C.) of Brentwood, Tenn. and Annis Stafford Williams (Joseph) of Franklin, N.J.; two sisters-in-law, Sybil Cobb Steward and Lou Jean Jarman Stafford, both of Pensacola; grandchildren, Richard B. Foss Jr., Cheryl Marie Foss and Richard C. Stafford Jr., all of Pensacola, Judith Foss Morgan of Colliersville, Ky., Christine Stafford and Sarah Stafford of Mobile, Ala., Chad Somerby, Leslie Somerby Miller of Nashville, Tenn., Jennifer Williams and Sarah Williams of Franklin, N.J.; 13 great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held 2 p.m. Wednesday, February 14, 2001 at Oak Lawn Funeral Home with the Reverend Kenny Ping officiating.

Interment will follow at St. John's Masonic Cemetery.