



Ralph Thomas Erwin, III, age 68, of Little Rock, AR died on July 5, 2007, at Baptist Hospital in Little Rock. He was an active member of the New Life Church in Maumelle. He is survived by his daughter, Thoma Thacker and her husband, Jesse Thacker; one sister, Rebecca; and one nephew, as well as a host of life-long friends. He was preceded in death by his wife, Sue Erwin, his father, Ralph T. Erwin, Sr., his mother, Thelma Kizer Erwin and his grandmother Helen Loretz. Ralph loved his family, his many friends, and his Church. He shared a great passion for life with those around him, and so often took on responsibilities to make a difference in the lives of others, when this was needed.

Ralph graduated from Little Rock Central High School in 1957, where he received the senior distinction of "Most Class Spirit." He then attended Little Rock University and was the Freshman Representative to the Student Council. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Accounting and Economics, and was a member of Delta Kappa fraternity.

Ralph had many interests which included various organizations. He was a member of the Board of Directors for the I040 Investment club, the Arkansas Retail Floor Covering Association and the Family Counseling Association. He was also a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. He was the co-owner, with his wife, of The Estate Sales, Inc. He gave back to the community in significant ways through tutoring students at local schools and served as a strong advocate for seniors, through his work with the Arkansas Advocates for Nursing Home Residents. He was a devoted Board member and Treasurer for over a decade, determined to provide a voice for Arkansans marginalized due to illness, injury, or age and forced to live in institutions; as well as involvement in political action on behalf of seniors.

Ralph served as the communication coordinator for the Little Rock Central High School Reunion Committee directing the recently held 50th reunion for the class of 1957. He helped with planning and execution of many aspects of this reunion. Committee members praised him as "the force that held us together and made things happen". Celebrating the reunion success, many of the same committee members talked with Ralph a week before his death to let him know of their deep appreciation and shared affection for him. The depth of these expressed feelings sustained him through his final days.

Ralph's love of life and his contagious smile and sense of humor made him a joy to be with. He will be deeply missed. A special thanks for their loving and tender care to the nursing staff, Dr. Lawrence Mendelson and Dr. Mary Searcy.

Funeral services will be at 10:00 A. M., Tuesday, July 10, at Roller Chenal Chapel with Pastor Bobby Hamilton of New Life Church officiating. Burial will follow at Forest Hills Memorial Park.

Visitation will be Monday, July 9, from 6:00 P. M. to 8:00 P. M. at the Roller Chenal Funeral Home.

Memorials may be made to:

**Arkansas Advocates for Nursing Home Residents
961 Paul Drive
Conway, AR 72034**

**The American Cancer Society
901 North University
Little Rock, AR 72203**

Pallbearers will be: Roy Jackson, Mike Rector, Don Dugan, Jack Singleton, John Ripley, Stuart Estes, and Linda Razer Orton. Honorary Pall Bearers will be the entire graduating class of 1957 of Little Rock Central High School.