



March 15, 2011

Estil Gerald Rhodes

Estil Gerald Rhodes, 67, of Clintwood, Va., formerly of Harmony, passed away Saturday, March 12, 2011, at the University of Virginia Medical Center following a courageous battle with cancer.

He was born August 11, 1943, in Harmony and was a son of the late Benjamin Hayward and Lelia Mae Thomas Rhodes.

Prior to his retirement, he owned a trucking company and was a well-known and avid bluegrass musician, with guitar and vocals being his specialty. He was a member of the Parkersburg Masonic Lodge and the Salem, Virginia, Moose Lodge. He was also a veteran of the U.S. Army.

Gerald enjoyed time with his family and was an avid sports fan, especially the West Virginia University Mountaineers and the Cincinnati Reds.

Surviving: son, Patrick (Bonnie) Rhodes of Alachua, Fla.; daughters, Becky (Jake) Gunter of Buena Vista, Va., and Tina (Cody) Alderson of Roscoe, Pa.; grandchildren, Melinda and Samantha Rhodes of Alachua, Fla., and Emily and David Gunter of Buena Vista, Va.; brothers, Don Rhodes of Burgaw, N.C., Burke Rhodes of Fairplain, Bob Rhodes of Harmony and Harry Rhodes of Salem, Va.; and sister, Joan Rhodes of Spencer. He is also survived by his longtime loving companion, Jewell Hay.

Funeral services are set for 1 p.m. Wednesday, March 16, at Waybright Funeral Home, Ripley. Interment will follow in the Rhodes family cemetery, Harmony.

Friends may call from 4 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home.