

Alonzo Hargrett

The Press Sentinel (Wayne Co., Georgia); online articles

8 September 2006 -- Jesup -- Alonzo McKee Hargrett, M.D., 90, of Jesup, died the evening of Sunday, Sept. 3, 2006, at Savannah Square Retirement Community. Funeral plans are incomplete and will be announced by Gamble Funeral Service, 410 Stephenson Avenue, Savannah. Gamble Funeral Service of Savannah is in charge of arrangements.

13 September 2006 -- Jesup--Alonzo McKee Hargrett Jr., D.O., 90, of Jesup died Sept. 3, 2006, in Savannah in the presence of his daughters and their mother.

Dr. Hargrett was a physician, legislator, aviator and community leader. He practiced medicine in Wayne County for 68 years, during which time he was the classic country doctor including the years before his rural patients had electricity and running water. He treated eight generations of Wayne County families and delivered more than 500 children by lamplight, including his own. During World War II, he served his country as a P-40 pilot in both the Royal Canadian Air Force and the U.S. Army Air Corps. During the 1960s, he served in the Georgia legislature, authoring the important medical legislation still in use today.

Among his many honors have been Physician of the Year; Screven Citizen of the Year; chief of staff of Wayne Memorial Hospital and the unanimous naming by the Georgia Legislature of the Satilla River Bridge between Wayne and Pierce counties in his honor.

Dr. Hargrett was born July 28, 1916 in Tifton. He was a son of the late Alonzo McKee Hargrett and Leila Oxner Hargrett. He was a boy minister who preached sermons in a Baptist church, a teenage band leader of his own band called the Rhythm Kings and graduated from medical school at the age of 20. He moved to Jesup to practice medicine in 1938.

Dr. Hargrett was a long-standing member of Christ Church on Saint Simons Island. In addition to his parents, Dr. Hargrett was preceded in death by a son-in-law, Philip Hamilton. Survivors include three daughters and two sons-in-law, Lucy and Stephen Draper of Atlanta, Cheryl and John Vardaman of Anniston, Ala., and McKee Hargrett Hamilton of Savannah; one son, Mac Hargrett of Baltimore, Md.; four grandchildren and their spouses, Lucy Erickson and her husband, Said Abrouch, Chrissy Erickson, Jessie R. Draper and Kate McKee Hamilton; and one great-grandson, Zain McKee Abrouch.

Funeral service were held at 1 p.m. Saturday at the family mausoleum in Christ Church Cemetery on Saint Simons Island. Remembrances may be made to a charity or church of the donor's choice.

Gamble Funeral Service of Savannah was in charge of arrangements.