

Obituary of George R. Mitchell



George R. Mitchell

George R. Mitchell, 91, of Arbor View at Willow Valley, entered into rest on December 30, 2011 at his residence. Born in Lancaster, he was a son of the late Joe and Laura (Rineer) Mitchell Wimer. He was married for 69 years to his loving wife, Thelma (Kreider) Mitchell.

George served our country in the U.S. Army Air Force during World War II. He began his career by managing the building supply company, I. B. Graybill and Sons, in Refton. In 1969, George purchased the business and renamed it G.R. Mitchell Inc. He retired in 1985, and the business has since moved to Willow Street, where it is currently operated by his son, Steve Mitchell. George belonged to New Providence Church of God, where he had been an active member since the age of 12. He was also involved in the following organizations: 75-year member of the I.O.O.F. in Strasburg, Washington Lodge #156 F.&A.M., 1985 president of the Lancaster County Shrine Club, Lancaster County Oriental Band, Willow Street Lions Club, Quarryville Slumbering Groundhog Lodge, Eastern Building Material Dealers Assoc., Modern Heat Council of Lancaster. George also served on the Lampeter-Strasburg School Board at the time of the approval of the Book Farm, currently the grounds for the L-S campus and sports complex. He was also instrumental in the purchase of the Landis Farm and developing it into the Susquehannock State Park.

Surviving in addition to his wife Thelma of Willow Valley, are two sons: G. Thomas, husband of Sharon Mitchell of Lancaster and Steven D., husband of Gail Mitchell of New Providence; four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a grandson, four - sisters, and two brothers.

A celebration of George's life will take place at New Providence Church of God, 269 Cinder Rd., New Providence, PA on Monday, January 2, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. with Rev. Lawrence Metzler officiating. The family will greet friends immediately following the service. Traditional private interment will be in the Strasburg Mennonite Cemetery. Kindly omit flowers; memorial contributions may be made to the New Providence Church of God at the above address.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Dewald Funeral and Cremation Services, Inc. To offer a note of condolence, please visit www.dewalds.com