

John Pershing Branstetter of Horse Cave passed away on April 17, 2013 . at Hart County Health Care Center. Born in Barren County, Kentucky, on September 16, 1917 , Mr. Branstetter was the son of the late Charles Ingram Branstetter and Ermie Mae Billingsley Branstetter. He married the former Beatrice Tharp of Munfordville, Kentucky, on February 10, 1940, and was married for 71 years before her passing separated them. In 1954 he made Horse Cave his home, opening and operating Branstetter hardware until he retired in 1987, John was a devoted and faithful member of the Horse Cave Baptist Church, where he served many years as a Deacon and as a Sunday School Teacher. He and Mrs. Bea were committed to getting the unchurched children of Horse Cave into Sunday School, many Sundays being the ones to pick the children up and getting them back home safely, often with a new Bible in hand.

He is survived by five sons, Lanny Gene Branstetter & his wife Dana of Horse Cave, Ky, Donald Ray Branstetter & his wife Judith of Tallahassee, FL , Michael Glee Branstetter & his wife Laurie of Glasgow, KY, Dr. John Allen Branstetter & his wife Susan of Jasper, AL, and Mark Steven Branstetter & his wife Janie of Lynn Haven, FL. His extensive legacy includes 15 grandchildren, and 12 great-grandchildren. Mr Branstetter is also survived by two sisters, Mary Flo Karl of Staten Island, NY, and Zola Mae Jaggars & her husband James of Glasgow, KY; two sisters-in-law, Mary W. Branstetter of Munfordville, KY, and Jean Tharp of Munfordville, KY; and one brother-in-law, Leon Tharp of Munfordville, KY. In addition to his beloved Beatrice, Mr. Branstetter was predeceased by his son Dr. Larry Glenn Branstetter, granddaughter, Jana Lyn Branstetter, infant sister, Katie Maude Branstetter, and four brothers, B. G. Branstetter, Jewel Branstetter, Emmitt Branstetter and (Woody) Branstetter.

Celebration services for Mr. Branstetter will be held at 11:00 a.m. Saturday April 20, 2013 at the Horse Cave Baptist Church led by Rev. Kevin Denton and under direction of Winn Funeral Home. Interment will follow in the Horse Cave Municipal Cemetery. The family invites all friends and neighbors to attend.

The family will receive friends for visitation at Winn Funeral Home between 5 and 9 p.m. on Friday and after 9 a.m. Saturday at the church.

Alternate expression of sympathy will be made in donations to John's memory to be made to Horse Cave Baptist Church.

