## **Donald E. Parks**



87, of Prairie Grove died November 15, 2006. He was born October 26, 1919, in Prairie Grove to James Clay "Jim" Parks and Myrtle McCormick Parks. He was a lifelong member of the First Presbyterian Church in Prairie Grove and served as Sunday School teacher, deacon, and elder in the church that his grandfather, Dr. E. G. McCormick helped found. He was selected a delegate to the Presbyterian General Assembly which met at Montreat, North Carolina. Donald graduated from Prairie Grove High School and attended the University of Arkansas for two years before serving four years in the United States Air Force during World War II.

Donald and his brother Barry managed the Beverly Theater in Prairie Grove, founded by their brother James. Following the death of their father in 1958, Donald and Barry shared the management of the Prairie Grove Telephone Company, founded by Dr. E. G. McCormick before the turn of the century. Following a devastating ice storm in 1949, the brothers rebuilt the company from the ground up. By 1977 the Prairie Grove Telephone Company had become the first multi-exchange telephone company in Arkansas to switch to all private lines for their customers.

In 1946 Donald became a charter member of the Prairie Grove Lions Club and the American Legion. Donald served on the Prairie Grove City Council for nineteen years, on the Prairie Grove School Board for five years and the Washington County School Board for 28 years, serving as secretary for several years. He served on the state board of the Arkansas Telephone Company. He was appointed by Governor Orval Faubus to serve as Chairman of the Washington County Election Commission and appointed by Governor Clinton to the state board of Vocational and Technical Schools

Donald and Barry were honored by the Prairie Grove Chamber of Commerce as Citizen of the Year in 1991. They were again honored in 2003 by the Chamber for Community Excellence. Ozark Guidance Center singled out the Parks Families and the Prairie Grove Telephone Company for their Annual Community Service Award in 2000 and Donald and Peggy Parks were made lifetime members.

Donald was instrumental in establishing a high quality medical clinic in Prairie Grove with two doctors now in practice.

Donald was preceded in death by his parents and three brothers, James Fay Parks, Joseph Carroll Parks and his twin brother, Barry Houston Parks.

He is survived by his wife of fifty-seven years, Peggy Sue Murphy Parks, son David McCormick Parks and his wife Pam all of Prairie Grove. Sisters-in-law, Janet Findiesen Parks and Betty McCoy Parks, niece's Michael Anne Dailey, Tandy Weiser, Susan Parks-Spencer and Karen Parks-Gerwig and nephew James Clay Parks.

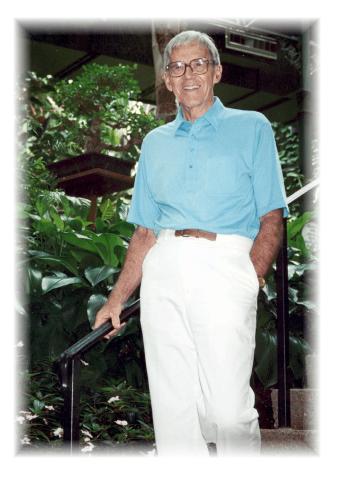


#### APPRECIATION

On behalf of the Parks family, we wish to express their gratitude for your many acts of kindness, and for your attendance at the funeral service.

> Luginbuel Funeral Home Prairie Grove, Arkansas

online guest book, visit www.luginbuel.com



# Donald E. Parks

October 26, 1919 - November 15, 2006

"I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the community and as long as I live, it is my privilege to do for it whatever I can. I want to be thoroughly used up when I die, for the harder I work, the more I live. Life is no 'brief candle' to me. It is a sort of splendid torch which I have got hold of for a moment, and I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it on to future generations."

George Bernard Shaw



## **CELEBRATING THE LIFE & MEMORY OF**

Donald E. Parks

## DATE, TIME and PLACE OF SERVICE

Friday, November 17, 2006 - 10:00 A.M. United Methodist Church - Prairie Grove, Arkansas

#### **ORDER OF SERVICE**

**Prelude Music** 

Scripture: Psalm 121 Audie Long

Pastor - First United Methodist Church - Prairie Grove, Arkansas

Poem: "I Cannot Say" - by F. C. Browning This was read at Jim Parks Funeral in 1958

Prayer

"It is Well With My Soul" Don Marsh Chorus

Remarks: Greg Reed
Rick Reed

Scripture: John 14: 1-4, 16, 17 John King

Pastor - First Presbyterian Church - Prairie Grove, Arkansas

"Be Not Afraid" Daniel O'Donnell

Words of Comfort & Victory John King

Scripture: Isaiah 40: 28-31 Audie Long

"On Eagles Wings" Michael Crawford

Scripture: Ephesians 13: 14-19 - Living Bible John King

**Closing Prayer** 

Benediction: John 15: 9-17 Ephesians 3:20 - Living Bible

**Family Video** 

"I Love How You Love Me"

"Draw Me Unto Thee"

Poem - Mizpah"

"Here I Am Lord"

"The Lord's Prayer"

Postlude Music



GRAVE SIDE SERVICES WILL NOT BE HELD AT THE CEMETERY. THE FAMILY WILL RECEIVE FRIENDS IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL FOLLOWING THE SERVICE.

#### FINAL RESTING PLACE

Prairie Grove Cemetery Prairie Grove, Arkansas

### **PALLBEARERS**

The Prairie Grove Telephone Company Employees (Past & Present)

#### **HONORARY PALLBEARERS**

Paul Jones - Dr. Calvin Bain - Jim Rieff - Jack Harlan Howard Helm - Greg Reed

#### **MEMORIALS**

Fayetteville City Hospital - 221 South School - Fayetteville, AR 72701 or

First Presbyterian Church - P.O. Box 1127 - Prairie Grove, AR 72753