



78 a resident of the Highland Community near Fayetteville, Arkansas, passed away June 30, 2004 in Fayetteville. He was born September 23, 1925 at Steele, Arkansas, the son of Ed and Cora Bookout Stilwell.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Edna Johnson Stilwell, one son, Dennis Stilwell and two sisters, Burleen Stilwell and Margaret Stilwell McBride.

Survivors include three sons, Leon and Bobby Stilwell both of Fayetteville, Arkansas, and Don Stilwell of Cypress, Texas; one daughter, Wilma Jean Dial of League City, Texas; four brothers, Billy

Stilwell, Robert Stilwell, Willie Stilwell and Johnny Stilwell all of Springdale, Arkansas; three sisters, Francis Smith of Springdale, Arkansas, Louise Falkner of Ozark, Arkansas, and Lillian Magness of Fullerton, California; ten grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren.

#### **FINAL RESTING PLACE**

Highland Cemetery  
Fayetteville, Arkansas

#### **PALLBEARERS**

Mike Stilwell - Craig Stilwell - Jason Stilwell  
Scott Stilwell - Seth Stilwell - Derek Wilson

#### **APPRECIATION**

On behalf of the Stilwell family, we wish to express their gratitude for your many kindnesses evidenced in thought and deed and for your attendance at the funeral service.

Luginbuel Funeral Home  
Prairie Grove, Arkansas

## **THE CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF**

Homer Charles Stilwell

**July 3, 2004**  
**Highland Cemetery**

**4:00 P.M.**  
**Fayetteville, Arkansas**

**Minister: The Rev. Canon Dr. Bill Stroop**

**St. Paul's Episcopal Church**  
**Fayetteville, Arkansas**

**MUSIC:**

**"The Old Rugged Cross"**

**MINISTER:**

I am Resurrection and I am Life, says the Lord. Whoever has faith in me shall have life, even though he die. And everyone who has life, and has committed himself to me in faith, shall not die for ever. As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives and that at the last he will stand upon the earth. After my awaking, he will raise me up; and in my body I shall see God. I myself shall see, and my eyes behold him who is my friend and not a stranger. For none of us has life in himself, and none becomes his own master when he dies. For if we have life, we are alive in the Lord, and if we die, we die in the Lord. So, then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's possession. Happy from now on are those who die in the Lord! So it is, says the Spirit, for they rest from their labors.

**MINISTER:** Let us pray.

O God, who by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ destroyed death, and brought life and immortality to light: Grant that your servant Homer, being raised with him, may know the strength of his presences, and rejoice in his eternal glory; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding, deal graciously with those who grieve. Surround them with your love, that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss, but have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*A Gospel Reading (please stand)*

Jesus said "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going. "Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

## Homily (Sit)

**Music:** "Peace in the Valley"

### The Commendation

*The minister takes his place at the body, and the people and the minister pray together (the people speak the words in italics)*

Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints,  
*where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.*

You only are immortal, the creator and maker of humankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and to earth shall we return. For so did you ordain when you created me, saying, "You are dust, and to dust you shall return." All of us go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

*Give rest, O Christ, to your servant(s) with your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.*

*Minister*

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your Servant Homer. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive him unto the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. **Amen.**

### The Committal

*Minister:*

Everyone the father gives to me will come to me;  
I will never turn away anyone who believes in me.  
He who raised Jesus Christ from the dead  
will also give new life to our mortal bodies  
through his indwelling Spirit.  
My heart, therefor, in glad, and my spirit rejoices;  
my body also shall rest in hope.  
You will show me the path of life;  
in your presence there is fullness of joy,  
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

*Then, while earth is cast upon the coffin, the minister says these words*

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to Almighty God our brother Homer, and we commit his body to the ground; \*earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust. The Lord bless him and keep him, the Lord make his face to shine upon him and be gracious to him, the Lord lift up his countenance upon him and give him peace. **Amen.**

*Minister:* Let us pray.

*Minister and People pray together:*

Our Father, who are in heaven,  
hallowed by thy Name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Minister:*

O God, whose days are without end, and whose mercies cannot be numbered: Make us, we pray, deeply aware of the shortness and uncertainty of human life; and let your Holy Spirit lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days; that, when we shall have served you in our generation, we may be gathered to our ancestors, having the testimony of a good conscience, in the communion of the Catholic Church, in the confidence of a certain faith, in the comfort of a religious and holy hope, in favor with you, our God, and in perfect charity with the world. All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Almighty God, Father of mercies and giver of comfort: Deal graciously, we pray, with all who mourn; that, casting all their care on you, they may know the consolation of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

*Minister and people (people speak the words in italics)*

Rest eternal grant to him, O Lord; *And let light perpetual shine upon him.*  
May his soul, and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God,  
rest in peace. **Amen.**

*The minister dismisses the people with these words*

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant: Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in God's sight. **Amen.**

**MUSIC:** "Amazing Grace"