

## Our Beloved John Burnett

By Ann Burnett



**John Burnett** was born in Mayfield, Kentucky in 1926. He graduated from high school in 1943 and joined the Air Force. After World War II he entered Vanderbilt University and graduated with a business degree. He ended up living in Atlanta in the late 60's and met Ann in 1974, and the rest is history. He moved to Summerfield, Florida in April 2005.

He was an avid golfer until his back problems ended his playing days. So knowing the game of golf as he did, he began to teach again, giving free golf instructions to anyone who wanted them. He quickly adapted to his new home and got involved with a number of organizations.

He joined Community United Methodist Church, where he sang in the choir. A friend and neighbor found out that he loved to sing and ask him to come to a meeting of the **Heart Of Florida Barbershop Chorus**. He immediately embraced this and enjoyed this more than any other of his endeavors. He loved getting dressed in whatever "uniform" of the event and never missed one if at all possible. John always loved his bonding time with the chorus on Thursday nights after practice. The barbershop chorus was his first love.

In 2010 a friend at his church ask him to come to a meeting of Kairos which is a prison ministry. He, of course, said yes and again plunged headlong into this. After several days of instructions, he joined 18 other members of Kairos and went into Lowell Prison and met with 48 prison inmates. This was a very intense four days. They would go into the prison about 8 a.m. and be there until about 9 p.m. Their whole ministry was "Listen, Listen, Love, Love." He did a great job of doing just that.

He became ill in late February and was hospitalized. He was diagnosed with pneumonia and osteomyelitis. It turned out that he had three arteries blocked. A stent was put in the renal artery and then another stent in his right leg. After almost two weeks in the hospital, he went to rehab and was doing well. Unfortunately, he got up when he shouldn't have and fell. His doctor thinks he had a stroke. This was the beginning of the end. John died at age 85 after a wonderful life. He will be missed by so many.

### **Newspaper Notice:**

**John Norman Burnett**, 85 of Summerfield, Florida passed away on April 11, 2011. He was born in Mayfield, Kentucky on February 9, 1926. He moved to Florida in 2005 from Atlanta, Georgia. He was a member of Community United Methodist Church of Fruitland Park, Florida. He was a member of the church choir, the Heart of Florida Barbershop Chorus, volunteered for KAIROS Prison Ministry, was an avid golfer and a veteran of WWII. Survivors are his wife of 33 years, Ann Trimble Burnett, Summerfield, Florida, daughter Caroline Nightbird, Woodstock, Georgia, step-daughter Lynn David, Orlando, Florida, three grandchildren and one great-grandson. A memorial Service was held in Fruitland Park, Florida. In lieu of flowers, contributions were made in his honor to: Community United Methodist Church, 309 College Ave, Fruitland Park, FL 34731.