James Dewey Hensley

James Dewey Hensley, 86, passed away May 22, 2011, at Lake Charles Memorial Hospital.

Mr. Hensley was born in Grand Junction, Tenn., on Aug. 8, 1924. He served in World War II from 1943 to 1946 in the Navy as a machinist's mate, second class in the Pacific Theatre. He received the Asiastic-Pacific medal, Philippine Operations medal (1 star), Victory medal, and the American Theatre medal. He graduated from University of Tennessee in 1948 and taught agriculture for the Shelby County, Tenn., School Board for 3 1/2 years.

He came to work at Cities Service in 1952 and retired in 1982. He served as Sunday school teacher and deacon at East Ridge Baptist Church.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Jane Hensley; children, Craig Hensley and wife Donna, Larry Hensley, Nancy Davison and Linda Rainwater and husband Paul; seven grandchildren; one great-grandchild; sisters, Frances Gowan and husband Jo Ray of Grand Junction, Tenn., and JoAn Morris of Southaven, Miss.

His funeral will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday, May 24, in the Hixson Funeral Home chapel. The Rev. Alan Weishampel will officiate. Visitation will be held Monday from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. and on Tuesday from 8 a.m. until the time of service. Burial will be at Highland Memory Gardens. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to the East Ridge Baptist Church Building Fund at 5400 La. 397, Lake Charles, LA 70607. Words of comfort may be shared with the family at www.hixsonfuneralhomes.com.