

Raymond McKinley Artis

Funeral services for Raymond McKinley Artis will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, April 30, 2011, in the Grays Temple Church of God in Christ of Oberlin with the Rev. David Wolfe officiating.

There will be a viewing from 7 a.m. to 12:25 p.m. prior to the funeral. Interment will follow at Ceaser's Cemetery (Lance Prien Noir) Mamou under the guidance of White Oaks Funeral Home of Oakdale.

Raymond, 62, of Oberlin entered eternal rest on Wednesday, April 20, in the Christus St. Francis Cabrini Hospital in Alexandria. He was born on Oct. 5, 1948, in Kinder to the union of McKinley and Nora Guillory Artis. Raymond was a veteran of the Vietnam Era and served in the Army from May 21, 1968, to Oct. 3, 1969. He was employed by Citgo Petroleum in Sulphur and was a member of the Carpenter's Local 953. He retired in 2006, after 30 years of employment. He was member of United Pentecostal Church (True Faith Pentecostal Church).

Raymond was a loving husband, father and friend. He enjoyed taking his family on vacations and camping trips. Raymond was an outdoorsman. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, crabbing and sanding with his son, father-in-law, brothers-in-law, nephews and friends. Raymond was also a cook. He enjoyed holidays such as Good Friday, Thanksgiving and Christmas. He was famous for his crawfish boils and fish fries.

Raymond was preceded in death by his parents; one sister, Mary Leana Arits DeVille; one brother, Leroy Duhon; one brother-in-law, Richard "Red" DeVille; and two unborn children.

Those left to cherish his memories include his loving and faithful wife of 41 years, Esther Mae Artis and two children from this union, son Adrian Anthony Artis (Melissa) and daughter Anita Anaise Artis, both of Oberlin. He also leaves to cherish his memory his daughter, Janice Jack Johnson (Douglas) of Atlanta, and his son, Anthony Guillory of Oakland, Calif.; three sisters, Betty Redwood (Henry) of Lee's Summit, Mo., Ezora Harmon (Joseph) of Eunice and Pearl Whitehead (Robert) of Peculiar, Mo.; 12 grandchildren; one greatgranddaughter; three godsons; three goddaughters; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Pallbearers to serve will be Adrian A. Artis, Richard "Ricky" DeVille, Patrick Fontenot, Grady Haynes, Charley Larry and Brain Cole.

