



## Mr. James "Jim" Lofton Rankin

March 15, 1930 - October 23, 2018

James "Jim" Lofton Rankin, 88, died Tuesday, October 23, 2018, at his home in Martin, GA, surrounded by family. He was born on March 15, 1930, in Coleman, Alabama, to the late Leonard Hugh Rankin and Stella May Hartley.

Jim served in the Air Force during the Korean War, where he was stationed in England as a communications specialist. He was later stationed in Carson City, NV, where he met his wife, Diane Baker.

He attended Tennessee Tech on the GI Bill, where he obtained a Bachelor of Science in industrial engineering. Later, he became a restaurateur with Shoney's Corporate and then the owner-operator of Shoney's Restaurant in Athens, GA.

After retirement, Jim and Diane relocated to Martin, GA, where they were active members of Ebenezer Baptist Church in Toccoa, and spent time traveling around the country in an RV with their Jack Russell terrier, Truffles.

A loving husband, father and grandfather, Jim is survived by his wife of 65 years, Diane; son, Gene Rankin, and his wife, Patsy; daughter, Gayla Nickerson, and her husband, Nick; five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Pruitt Funeral Home in Royston, GA is in charge of arrangements.