



## Joseph Lawson

January 18, 1920 - December 24, 2005

LAWSON, JOSEPH LELDON, age 86, of Mt. Olive, AL died December 24, 2005. He was preceded in death by his son, Joseph Leldon Lawson, Jr. (Joe Lel); and his granddaughter, Shannon Dayle Graham. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Ruth Madaris Lawson; a daughter, Melanie (Marshall) Graham; four grandchildren, Michele and Brett Graham, Mike and Jochen Lawson; and 3 great grandchildren, Cory and Brianna Lawson, and Chloe Graham; and nieces, nephews, cousins, and many friends. Mr. Lawson graduated from Brookwood High School (Tuscaloosa, Co.) in 1938. He then served in World War II as crew chief of P-38 Fighter planes in North Africa, Sicily and Italy from 1942 until 1945, with the 37th Fighter Sqdn, 14th Fighter group and enjoyed attending Sqdn. Reunions all around the U.S. from 1976 until 2003. He was a long time member and a deacon at Gardendale First Baptist Church and a Mt. Olive resident for 54 years. He retired in 1979, after 31 years with Jefferson County, as first a mechanic and for his last 16 years as Jefferson County Shop Superintendent. Funeral services will be held on Wednesday, December 28, 2005 at 2:00 P.M. at Morgan's @ Gardendale Funeral Home with burial in Moncrief Cemetery in Gardendale and visitation will be from 12:00-2:00 P.M. at Morgan's prior to the service. Pall bearers will be daughter and son-in-law, Melanie and Marshall; grandchildren, Mike and Jochen, Michele and Brett; and Rick Wright and Rick Pennington representing his friends. There will be a reserved honor section for anyone attending for World War II veterans, Jefferson County Employees, Welcome class and

deacons of Gardendale First Baptist and residents of his street. Morgan's @ Gardendale Funeral Home directing.