



## CW4 (Ret) Lawrence Oliver Hensley

January 16, 2012

Lawrence Oliver Hensley, one of nine children born to the union of Clarence R. and Ethel (Walters) Hensley, was born May 16, 1920 in Laquey, Missouri where he grew up. He began attending school and graduated from Waynesville High School in 1939. After graduating, Lawrence attended three semesters at Central Missouri State in Warrensburg.

In 1942, Lawrence entered the United States Army Air Corp and served his country faithfully for the next 36 years. He had attained the rank of Chief Warrant Officer 4 and had earned several awards and commendations. Some of those include: 6 Bronze Stars for Air Offensive – Europe, Normandy, Southern France Ardennes, Rhineland, Central Europe Campaigns and the Good Conduct Medal.

After retiring from the military, Lawrence began working at the Missouri National Guard in Jefferson City in the Adjunct General's Office and retired in 1977.

On January 1, 1942, Lawrence was united in marriage to Margaret Farr. They shared many years together before she preceded him in death on December 3, 1991. They were blessed with one son, Larry.

Lawrence was united in marriage to Velma Lois (Bell) Crider on October 30,

1993 in Jefferson City, Missouri. They shared many wonderful memories together.

After a time, Lawrence and Velma moved to the Waynesville area and they enjoyed traveling together. In his spare time, Lawrence loved being outdoors enjoying God's creation while hunting and fishing. He was a member of the American Legion Post 5 and the Veterans of Foreign Wars #103, both in Jefferson City.

Lawrence made a profession of faith as a young man and he was a faithful member of the Westside Baptist Church of Waynesville.

Lawrence went home to be with his Lord the morning of Monday, January 16, 2012 in the Phelps County Regional Medical Center of Rolla having attained the age of 91 years and 8 months.

Lawrence will be sadly missed but fondly remembered by his wife, Velma Hensley of the home; four brothers: Dennis Hensley (Ruth) of Columbia, MO, Dwight Hensley (Marilyn) of Waynesville, MO, Douglas Hensley (Jeanette) of Orick, MO and Melvin Hensley of Waynesville, MO; two sisters: Barbara Johnson of Albuquerque, NM and Marlene Hartley of Richland, MO; daughter-in-law: Rosemary Hensley of Rock Hill, MO; one granddaughter: Jennifer Gomez (Ronald); one great grandson: Leo Gomez; several nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

In addition to his parents and his first wife, Lawrence was preceded in death by one son, Larry Hensley, one brother, Donald Hensley and one stillborn brother Alvin Hensley.

Funeral services were held at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, January 21, 2012 in the Westside Baptist Church of Waynesville with Rev. Lindell Shelden and Rev.

John Shaw officiating. David Hartley, Lawrence's nephew, gave a beautiful eulogy. Pianist Renita Demalade accompanied Becky Lercher as she sang "How Great Thou Art" and "Nearer My God to Thee". Serving as escorts were David, Mike, Robert and Josh Hartley, Joe Petrich and Marvin Long. Serving as honorary escorts were Dennis, Dwight, Douglas and Melvin Hensley.

Burial with military honors followed in the Waynesville Memorial Park Cemetery. Services were under the direction of Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville / St. Robert.

# Previous Events

## Service

JAN 21. 10:00 AM (CT)

Westside Baptist Church  
801 Historic 66 West  
Waynesville, MO

# Tribute Wall



“ *Memorial Chapels and Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of CW4 (Ret) Lawrence Oliver Hensley*



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**Memorial Chapels and Crematory** - January 16, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *CW4 (Ret) Lawrence Oliver Hensley*

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January 28, 2023 at 06:53 AM



“ *Velma, we are so sad to hear about Lawrence's passing. What a wonderful man he was, and what a wonderful couple you made. We have been honored to know him (and you). Please let us know if there is anything you need. I know we are a bit far away, but you know Bob and I would do what we could to help you. Janet also sends her condolences. Love you....Alice Longfellow and Bob Call.##imported-begin##Alice Longfellow##imported-end##*

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January 25, 2012 at 01:05 PM



“*Velma, my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. I appreciate having the opportunity to know Lawrence; he is in a wonderful place, but we shall all miss him!*

*With love and respect,*

*Clara Ichord and family##imported-begin##Clara Ichord##imported-end##*

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January 20, 2012 at 05:21 PM



“*Velma and family, I am so sorry to hear of your loss. My thoughts and prayers will be with all of you in the days ahead. Mary Ann##imported-begin##Mary Ann Hartman##imported-end##*

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January 18, 2012 at 10:46 AM



“*We're praying for your family.##imported-begin##Dennis & Ann Crowder##imported-end##*

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January 17, 2012 at 08:25 PM



“*I thoughts and prayers to Mrs. Hensley during this difficult time. I will miss seeing them driving their car together. They seemed to be a great love story from the Greatest Generation. Thinking of you.##imported-begin##Luge Hardman##imported-end##*

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January 17, 2012 at 12:34 PM



“ Bill and I feel so privileged to have known Lawrence when he was still able to attend church and eat out with Velma. He was such a good conversationalist and so interested in life. Every time we saw him with Velma they looked like they were sweethearts on a date. We appreciated his military service, his strong faith in Jesus, and his continued interest in the welfare of our nation. We were sorry for his declining health and know his family will miss him dearly, but we have the reassurance that he is in the Lord's care now and will be waiting for his loved ones in Heaven with a smile on his face!##imported-begin##Annette Catts##imported-end##

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January 17, 2012 at 02:41 AM



“ Velma. I am so sorry to see this Obit. I so enjoyed getting to visit with you and Lawrence at the care center during church services there. As a small boy I have wonderful memories of going to Lawrence's father's business with my step dad Charley Hayes. Charley and Clarence were such good friends. I went to high school one year with Marlene, Barbara, and Dwight in 1950. My dad died and I had to drop out of school. May God bless and give you and family comfort. Norman and Marjorie Stoll##imported-begin##Norman & Marjorie Stoll##imported-end##

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January 16, 2012 at 09:08 PM



“ Deborah's and my prayers are with you all. We sure enjoyed visiting with Lawrence since he moved back to our area. He always made us smile. He will be missed.##imported-begin##Steve and Deborah Lynch##imported-end##

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January 16, 2012 at 06:47 PM