John Douglas Tripp, Sr.

(First Educational Director, South Norfolk Baptist Church)



February 28, 1924 - June 1, 2012

Mooresville - John D. Tripp Sr., age 88. His soul went to be with Jesus Friday morning, June 1, 2012, John was born at Core Point, N.C. February 28, 1924, He was a 2nd Lieutenant in the 71st Infantry Division of the 3rd Army, WWII. He received the Bronze Star for his heroic exposure to enemy fire in deploying his platoon May 3, 1945. John earned a BS from NC State in 1948, an MRE from Southwestern Seminary in 1951, and passed orals for a PhD in Education at Auburn Univ. in 1968. He ministered at a number of Baptist churches in Tidewater Virginia and Charlotte. From the late 60's until 1991 he was Testing and Veterans Affairs Director for Central Piedmont Community College and was first to receive the College Board "Acorn Award" for his testing innovations. He was truly outgoing and would encourage the educational pursuits of others. He taught Sunday School at Berea Baptist until April. Swing dancing with his wife, Mary Humphrey of Kinston, was enjoyed almost all of their 62 year marriage. He liked hats, travel, singing, bible study and fishing the Pamlico River and Lake Norman. Born the last of five sons and three daughters of Joseph and Josephine Tripp; in immediate family he is survived by his wife Mary, son John D. Tripp Jr. of Winston-Salem, daughter Mary M. Hobby of Kinards, SC, two granddaughters; Lauren Tripp of Winston-Salem, Rachel Flippin of Lewisville NC, three grandsons; Landon Hobby of Pomaria, SC, Reid Hobby of Virginia Beach, VA, Michael Hobby of Nashville, TN; a great granddaughter, Zeta Hobby of Pomaria, SC, and sister Josephine Gilliland of Lillington, NC. John joins Grayson Hobby, grandson, of Kinards, SC in Heaven. Dad believed the Word, cared for all his family, relished reunions, and left a family legacy of deep thinking. Memorials or flowers may be sent to Berea Baptist Church, 1015 River Highway, Mooresville, NC 28117. A visitation will be held on Thursday, June 7, 2012 from 3:00pm -4:00pm at Berea Baptist Church and a Celebration Service will follow at the church at 4:00pm. Interment will be at Salisbury National Cemetery on Monday, June 11, 2012 at 10:00am. The family would like to invite family and friends for refreshments and dinner following the service. Cavin-Cook Funeral Home, Mooresville, is serving the Tripp family. Condolences may be made to the family at www.cavin-cook.com.