



## Edward L. Downs

November 30, 1920 - September 29, 2016

Edward L. Downs, 95, of Cape Girardeau, passed away Thursday, September 29, 2016.

He was born November 30, 1920 in Charleston, Missouri to the late Jessie Edward and Betty (Rogers) Downs.

Edward was a 1938 graduate of Charleston high school and 1942 graduate of Westminster College. He then joined the Army and was a part of the U.S. Signal Corp, stationed in Brazil. That military unit handled telecommunications between the allied force's leadership, during the war. That unit was alerted when Franklin Roosevelt, Winston Churchill and Joseph Stalin needed to communicate. The South American Telecommunication route enabled allied forces to evade Axis detection during WWII. In 1945 he began law school at the University of Missouri and graduated in 1948. Edward came back to Cape and began his law practice. He was joined in that practice later by his partners Gerald Johnson and Malcolm Montgomery. He and Juanita Schumacher were married June 3, 1950 in Cape Girardeau at Centenary Methodist Church. She preceded him in death on October 10, 2005.

He was a member of Centenary United Methodist Church, V.F.W. Post 3838, American Legion Post 63, and Elks Lodge #639.

Survivors include his son, Edward L. Downs, Jr. of Cape Girardeau; nieces and nephews, Vicki (Michael) Long of Cape Girardeau, Julie (Vincent) Draper of Benton, MO, Sandra Young of Palm Springs, CA, Michael (Ana) Young of Camano Island, WA, Dale Schumacher of San Francisco, CA, Lee (Wayne) Piersol of Oakland, CA, Fred Schumacher (Mary) of Cincinnati, OH, Willis Mac (Nancy) Downs of Dallas, TX, Betty McGlothlin of Satellite Beach, FL, Paula (Bill) Thompson of Houston, TX and Janet (Bobby) Richardson of Navarre, FL.

He was preceded in death by his parents, wife, and brothers, Jessie Edward Downs, Jr. and Willis Andrew Downs; sisters, Pauline Beasley and Willie Mae Wade; and nephews, Edward Wade and Wayne Downs.

Private family funeral services and entombment have already been held.

# Cemetery Details

## **Cape County Memorial Park Cemetery**

2315 Highway 61 North  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701  
(573) 334-1909  
<https://www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Uncle Ed filled my childhood, school years and adulthood with wonderful memories. He was generous and kind. Will always remember him as a very loving Uncle. He will be missed..... My heart goes out to you, Larry. What an amazing son your were to both your parents. The years of care and support you gave them was beyond generous. I am honored to know and love you so very much... Lee*

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**Lee Piersol** - October 08, 2016 at 07:14 PM



“ *It was a pleasure to have known him, and to have worked with him. May his memory be eternal.*

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**David Roth** - October 08, 2016 at 12:30 AM