



## Merlin Coates

March 17, 1938 - February 9, 2012

Merlin ?Jerry? Coates

Age 73 and a longtime resident of Pumpkin Center, Merlin passed away Thursday, February 9, 2012 in New Orleans. He was a U.S. Army Veteran.

Jerry leaves behind his children, Jackie Bertone, Suzie Coates, Timmy Thornton, Vanessa Pierce, Lynn Saba, Jody DeLacy, Gerald Coates and Rebekah Coates, along with 22 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his siblings, Judy Hooter, Betty Faye Stewart-Harris and Billy Coates, as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

Preceding Jerry in death were his son, Jerry Paul Coates; parents, Jesse Willard and Irma Coates.

Relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend the religious services from the chapel of Brandon G. Thompson Funeral Home, west of Hammond, on Sunday, February 12, 2012 at 2:30 p.m., with visitation beginning at 12:00 noon. Interment will follow in Jerusalem Baptist Church Cemetery.

Condolences and other information are available online at [www.thompsoncares.com](http://www.thompsoncares.com)

Arrangements have been entrusted to Brandon G. Thompson Funeral Home.