

**Edison Kenneth Strong Jr.(1923 - 2016)**

Edison Kenneth Strong, Jr.

Edison Kenneth Strong, Jr., 92, of Palmyra, TN died February 18th 2016. He was born July 26, 1923 in Dunbar, PA, one of three children born to Edison and Reine Carroll Strong. He was preceded in death by his older sister, Mary Josephine Strong Lake and his younger brother, Wilbur Waite Strong.

On January 29, 1955, he married Audrey Isabell Hamilton of Waynesboro, VA. Married fifty-one years, they had two children and a variety of dogs, before Audrey preceded him in death, May 6, 2006.

Strong was a [World War II](#) veteran, where he saw active combat as part of the 26th Yankee Division in Patton's 3rd [Army](#) in Europe (including the Battle of the Bulge); earned two [bronze stars](#) for valor; and went from the rank of Private to Tech Sergeant.

He subsequently graduated from the University of Pittsburgh (Pittsburgh-PA) as a Doctor of Dental Surgery and briefly went into private practice in Virginia before re-enlisting in the Army Dental Corp. He served twenty plus years - including time with the 82nd Airborne Division in the 15th Field Evacuation Hospital in the Dominican Republic and as a KJ Team Commander with the 1st Division at Dian in Vietnam; earned another two bronze stars for meritorious service; and achieved the rank of Colonel. Upon retiring and after teaching briefly at [Louisiana State University](#), LA, he moved to Palmyra, TN, in 1981, where he worked as a civilian dentist at Fort Campbell, KY.

In Clarksville, he was involved in the Kiwanis Club, the Dream Factory and the Shriners. He also worked faithfully in the Loaves and Fishes Soup Kitchen for almost a decade, serving as director part of this time. He taught Sunday school at Hilldale United Methodist Church, before moving his membership to Forest Street United Methodist Church.

He leaves behind son Edison Kenneth Strong, III and daughter Carol Reine Strong; as well as sister-in-law, Viola Irene Strong of Clarksville, TN; nephew Larkin W. Lake IV of Doylestown, PA; and nieces Linda Lake Boyle of Anchorage, AK and Marilyn Lake-DellAngelo of Rio Rancho, NM.

Cremation was handled by the Neal-Tarpley-Parchman Funeral Home in Clarksville, TN.

A memorial service will be held May 21, 2016 at 11:00 am at Forest Street United Methodist Church (416 Church Street, Clarksville, TN 37040) with the Rev. Sung Nam 'Sonny' Kim presiding.

Memorial gifts can be made to Smile Train, an international children's charity that provides free dental service to repair cleft lip and palates for underprivileged children around the world. Donations can be sent via their website or to P.O. Box 96231, Washington, D.C. 20090-6231.

Neal-Tarpley-Parchman Funeral Home; 931-645-6488; [www.nealtarpleyparchman.com](http://www.nealtarpleyparchman.com)

**Funeral Home****Neal-Tarpley-Parchman Funeral Home**

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**Published in The Leaf Chronicle from May 15 to May 17, 2016**