

John Darby Date
Section(s)
Byline

August 07, 2007
Obituary

John **Darby**, 74, died Friday at his home after a brief illness.

He was an alumnus of Pittsburg State University, University of Tulsa and Harvard Business School. He was a senior executive with Murphy Oil Co. for 25 years. He proudly served in the U.S. Army in the United States and in Korea. He and his wife, Carole, have made their home on St. Simons Island for the past 16 years.

John was an active member of the business community and a familiar figure within the local flying fraternity. He was an avid pilot and sought after flight instructor for beginners, as well as pilots qualifying for advanced certification. John's quick wit and humorous comments about everyone and everything was known and loved by all who knew him.

He was an active member of the St. Simons Methodist Church and participated in a small group Bible study. He was a member of the St. Simons Rotary and chaired the July 2007 Taps at Twilight program. He was also a member of the Ivy League Club. He served as a mentor at the Latin American Resource Center and as a volunteer at Manna House.

He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Carole **Darby** of St. Simons Island; two sons, Douglas **Darby** and Craig **Darby** of St. Simons Island; a daughter, Susan Nelson of St. Simons Island; and two grandchildren, Sarah Nelson and John Robert Nelson, both of St. Simons. He is also survived by two brothers, Don **Darby** (Wanda) of Webb City, Mo., and Ron **Darby** (Barbara) of Joplin, Mo.; and a sister, Becky West (Wally) of Carl Junction, Mo.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday at St. Simons Methodist Church.

Interment will be in his hometown of Joplin.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to St. Simons Methodist Church, St. Simons Island or Young Eagles Chapter 905 at McKinnon Airport, St. Simons Island.

Edo Miller and Sons Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.