



## Jesse Watson Spiceland

November 13, 1924 - June 16, 2020

Jesse Watson Spiceland, beloved family man, loved by all, our hero, went into the arms of Jesus on 6-16-2020. He was on this earth for 95 years.... a blessing to so many.

Mr. Spiceland was born in Cairo, Illinois on 11-13-1924 to Callie Elizabeth Watson Spiceland and Jesse Spiceland.

We miss him profoundly already but will cherish the memory of this remarkable husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, friend and mentor. Surviving are his three daughters, Susan Spiceland Livermore (George) of Matthews, NC, Carol Spiceland Warren (Ron) of Germantown, and Kathy Spiceland Andrews Moore (Steve) of Cordova; one son, Dr. J. David Spiceland (Charlene) of Amelia Island, FL; eight grandchildren, Laura Rach (Joe), Amanda Christopher (Lee), Denise Spiceland, Michael Spiceland, Jessica Spiceland, Nikki Andrews, Zach Andrews (Kat), and Shelly Stackhouse (Rick), and numerous great grandchildren. He also leaves his special friend, Evelyn Simkin.

Jesse was pre-deceased by his wife Irene (Inky) in 2011, after almost 66 years of marriage. He used "we" constantly, always including Inky in any mention of his many successes in life. He also was pre-deceased by his parents; his three sisters, Ruth Brown, Mary Lois Baldwin, and Edith Simpson; and son-in-law, Rick Andrews.

Many, many will remember Jesse for his wisdom and wit, his extraordinary memory of history and geography, his business acumen, his generosity, and his willingness to go out of his way to help, as well as for his Christian ethics. In his last months, he loved to sing to us, favoring, "In the Garden," "The Old Rugged Cross" and "You Are My Sunshine."

Jesse was a long-time member of Kingsway Christian Church and served during many of those years as church Treasurer, Deacon, Elder and then Elder Emeritus. He served in the Army Air Corps in World War II ("the Big One"), and he flew over 40 missions in a B-24 as a navigator and bombardier. In his zest for encouraging higher education in youth, he also enjoyed telling how, after receiving an honorable discharge as First Lieutenant on a

Friday, he resumed his college courses on the following Monday morning! Such was the work ethic he had, even as a 20-year old man, and he demonstrated that principle throughout his life.

After completing his undergraduate degree at Southern Illinois University in May 1947, he went on to earn his Master's in Business at Washington University, St. Louis in June 1948. He later completed additional graduate work, as well as earning his CPA.

Mr. Spiceland taught at Marshall, Mo. for a year. A professorship at Memphis State (then Normal Teachers College, now the University of Memphis) brought him to the Memphis area in 1949. He taught scores of future business leaders over a forty-year period. At about the same time, he began managing Maywood Swimming Pool during the summers, and he purchased the business in 1956 from its founder, Maurice Woodson. Maywood remains in the memories of thousands of people as THE place to go for "fun in the sun" at the "beach within reach." His children and older grandchildren remember it, as well, as the place where they were instilled with their own work ethic and had a unique opportunity to take that with them throughout their own lives. He sold "the pool" in 1987.

Mr. Spiceland operated several other business enterprises during the same period, including DeSoto Water Company, Screen Graphics, and various rental properties.

Although he was a successful businessman throughout his lifetime, Jesse's greatest success, along with Irene, was demonstrating to their children and grandchildren what true Christian and family devotion is. Daddy (Papa) truly led by example. We will be forever grateful that God gave us such a Daddy.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be made to Kingsway Christian Church, 7887 Poplar Ave., Germantown, TN 38118.

Due to Covid-19, a small family crypt-side service was held at Memorial Park Funeral Home, followed by a celebration of life at a later date.

# Cemetery Details

## Memorial Park Mausoleum

5668 Poplar Ave.  
Memphis, TN 38119

# Tribute Wall

VT

“ *What a wonderful man and Christian role model he was to all. I know he will be deeply missed. I too, feel your sorrow my father passed at 91, on February 4, 3020. Also, Uncle Jack was 95, and passed away on January 26, 2020. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. May we all find peace, strength, and endurance in our time of sorrow.*

*I have fond memories of my visit to your home in Memphis. Although I was very young, I remember Aunt Inky taking me shopping for clothes, swimming at the Maywood pool, and then taking us to the zoo later during my trip. Carol had several troll dolls with outfits and we played for hours. My older sister Patricia decided to give me a makeover with Aunt Inky's lipstick and I received the discipline before she confessed.*

*At Christmas your parents always made sure that all ten of us kids had something to open. All I can say is that had it not been for your parents, we wouldn't have had much. Your parents also wonderful and shared your clothing, every time they traveled to Cairo to visit grandpa and Ethel they would bring us boxes of wonderful clothing. Since mom was a great seamstress, she was able to make the appropriate alterations.*

*May God be with us all. Keep our country on your prayers. I can't remember our country ever being in such turmoil.*

*Cousin Valerie Jean Ting (Simpson), Ph.D, APRN, FNP-BC*

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**Valerie Ting** - July 05, 2020 at 03:46 PM

TE

“ *Kathy  
Thoughts and prayers for your family.  
Tammy Elam*

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**Tammy A Elam** - June 21, 2020 at 01:38 PM

FM

“ *Goodbye and RIP, Mr. Spiceland! I want to thank you for giving me one of my first jobs as a lifeguard at Maywood when I was 18. The money from that job paid my tuition for my first year of College so it did not go to waste. I also appreciate that you treated all your employees with respect!*

*Fred E Potts, III, MD, PhD*

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**Fred E Potts III MD** - June 20, 2020 at 10:33 PM

LH

“ *Mr. Spiceland was my boss at Maywood Pool many summers. He was a great man and always treated me well. He also encouraged me the go to Memphis State. My condolences to the family, he was one of the good ones. Rest In Peace. Lissa Holley*



Lissa Holley - June 19, 2020 at 09:25 PM

DW

“ *It was an honor to know Mr. Spiceland!!! He was such a great man. I remember him and my dad talking for hours at a time. Maywood pool was the best thing ever. We had so much fun there!! Mr. Spiceland you will be missed!!! Sending prayers to the Spiceland Family 🙏🙏🙏. Rest In Peace Jess!!!! Dawn Wagner*

dawn wagner - June 19, 2020 at 08:10 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Jesse Watson Spiceland.*



June 19, 2020 at 04:38 PM

DS

“ *What a awesome man, and an amazing couple, who raised amazing children! Mr. & Mrs. Spiceland were a great example to all of us. They made us all feel like family, and I'll be forever grateful for that. Precious memories of all the years! Donna Walters Slee*

Donna Walters Slee - June 19, 2020 at 02:02 PM

TB

“ *Well, there's too many memories, and all of them good. I'll always remember Jess, Inky, Roy and Janice playing bridge at the card table in front of the beautiful windows in their lovely West Crestwood home. I'll always remember Mr. Spiceland's unique voice and enduring smile. I remember him in his coat and tie at Memphis State. I remember he was a real gentleman. His quiet leadership was evident. Many warm thoughts are being sent to all the Spiceland family. Your family made my childhood better. Much love to all.*

Terri Thompson Barnes - June 19, 2020 at 09:55 AM

JH

“ *May wood Pool! There are thousands of people who grew up going to Maywood Pool and have wonderful memories from summers there. My Mother worked the front gate every summer so we could go to the pool. And my brothers were all lifeguards at some point. I can only imagine the life's he impacted. So many kids had their first job there. It was a wonderful place and Mr Spiceland worked so hard to keep it that way. Prayers for comfort for the family.*

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**Joy Loftin Henderson** - June 17, 2020 at 01:51 PM

JS

*As a child I can see Mr Spiceland walking around Maywood pool making sure everything was running properly. As a young mom with 3 children, one of them being handicapped he through his employee Steve Crowdus gave my family a Season Pass for the summer. That meant so much to us . At the time , we would not have been able to go otherwise!  
I will never forget that kind gesture! His family was blessed to have & enjoy such a great man!*

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**Jackie Bell Samsel** - June 20, 2020 at 10:44 AM

LJ

*What beautiful memories we all have and share with Mr. Spiceland's family. His son, David, and I are still in contact with each other. My older brother and his older sister were the same age as was my younger brother and David's younger sister. We all shared many days at "the pool" together. We share our sympathy with all of Jesse's family .*

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**Linda Currie Jamison** - June 21, 2020 at 09:31 PM