

STEPHEN JAMES ROUTON, JR. JIM ROUTON

Born: November 29, 1915

Died: September 15, 2001

Buried: Maplewood Cemetery

(From newspaper article)

“JIM” ROUTON

Stephen James Routon, Jr., died Saturday, Sept. 15, 2001,
at his residence in Routon.

Born Nov. 29, 1915, he was the son
of the late S. J. Routon and Pearl Sanders Routon.

After graduation from Grove High School, where he was president of the 1934 senior class, he received a bachelor's degree in commerce from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, where he was a member of the varsity track team and Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

In 1943, he volunteered for military duty in the U.S. Navy. He
served a year overseas as a seaman then returned to attend midshipman school in Columbia University
in New York City.

After completing midshipman school, he was a line officer on a tank landing craft. He received the
Okinawa Battle Star and was discharged in 1946. He remained in the Naval Reserve until 1951.

Routon was a purchasing agent for the War Department in Washington, D.C., and Sioux Ordnance Depot in Sidney, Nebraska,

before returning to Paris to be associated with his parents in the Routon Florist Business.

Later he assumed a farming interest which he maintained until his death.

He retired in 1981 as business counselor for the State of Tennessee serving all counties in West Tennessee except Shelby.

On June 2, 1940, he was married to the former Val Rucker, who survives.

He also leaves their three children: Gini Burton Routon Williams of River Forest, Ill., Stephanie Routon Tayloe of Paris Landing and William Rucker Routon and wife Shelia of Routon;

Seven grandchildren: Tom Routon Williams of San Francisco, Dr. Arthur Burton Williams and wife Elaine of Cincinnati, James Curtis Williams of Chicago;

Jill Routon Wilson and husband Andy of McKenzie, Kristen Michelle Routon, Richard Matthew Routon and Joshua James Routon.

Three great-grandchildren: Spellings Andrew Wilson, Nathaniel James Williams and Thalia Amel Routon;

One brother, Joe Routon and wife
Virginia of Paris; several nieces and nephews;
and a sister-in-law, Mrs. William S. Routon.

Preceding him in death were a sister, Catherine Routon Burton; a nephew, Ray Berry Burton, Jr.; a son-in-law, Samuel Albert Tayloe; and a brother, William Sanders "Billy" Routon.

Visitation will be at Ridgeway Funeral Home at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, followed by a graveside service at 11 a.m.

at the family plot in Maplewood Cemetery.

Jerry Massey and Charles Orr will officiate.

The family requests memorials be made to the men's ministry or the ministry for the deaf at First Baptist Church

in Paris, or to Habitat for Humanity.