



Melvin Fred Lands

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Melvin F. Lands, age 75, of St. Augustine, passed away on March 7, 2017 at his home. Born in Scottsboro, Alabama, Melvin moved to St. Johns County as a child. He grew up in Hastings, and graduated from Hastings High School with the Class of 1960. Melvin studied electrical engineering, although he did not work in that field, and sold life insurance for a brief period of time. A chance encounter with a friend, led Melvin to a job in a dental lab. That job turned into a 40 year career. Melvin opened a D & L Dental Lab with a partner in Jacksonville and successful operated the business for 12 years. In 1980 he became the sole proprietor of D & L and moved the business to Hastings. He retired from the business in 2011, after suffering a stroke. Melvin overcame much adversity in his lifetime, he lost his leg to cancer at the age of 8. It never slowed him down. In addition to his business success, Melvin enjoyed hunting, fishing, and he was an avid reader. He loved his life in the Hasting Community, enjoyed working the land, and farming with his brother, Weldon. More than anything, Melvin was a loving husband, father, brother, and grandfather, and he will be deeply missed. He is survived by his daughters, Tina Lands of St. Augustine and Robin Marambio of Orem, Utah; sons, Melvin F. "Bubba" Lands of Palatka and Jamey Lands, and his wife, Perla, of Charleston, SC; a sister, Linda Mauldin of St. Augustine and a brother, Weldon Lands, and his wife, Nancy, of Hastings; grandchildren, James

"Booger", Mitchell, Brittany, Amanda, Tyler, Spencer, Jay, Kaitlynn, Kimberlynn, Keslynn, Kyler, Liliana, Mia, Khloe, Josh, Michael and Brianna; 15 great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews. A funeral service will take place at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 11, 2017, with Pastor Bob Burkert officiating. A visitation, beginning at 1:00 p.m., will precede the service. St. Johns Family Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.