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**Ulysses "Jay" Phelps**, age 86, of Adrian, passed away, January 28, 2011, at Herrick Memorial Hospital. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Maye Phelps, his son, Randy (Linda) Phelps of Adrian, his granddaughters, Katherine (Andy) Ewing of Tecumseh and Megan (Lance) Paul of Adrian. Also surviving are sister in laws, brother in laws, cousins, nieces and nephews in Michigan, Ohio, Alabama, California, North Carolina, Florida and Texas. He was preceded in death by his parents, David & Mary Ellen Phelps, four brothers, C.S., Jeff, Tom and Hubert and two sisters, Rosamay and Ruby. Jay was born in Huntsville, AL, on April 30, 1924. As a young man, he became an Eagle Scout. He graduated from high school early and joined the U.S. Army.

Jay proudly served his country during World War II as an Army Ranger with the rank of Master Sergeant. He was on detached service to the 8th Army in the Pacific Theater. During the war, he instructed Australians in using plastic explosives. He fought in New Guinea, Saipan, the Philippines and other islands, becoming a decorated veteran. While still in the army in 1946, he was stationed in Japan working as a Radiologist. Interestingly, he x-rayed General Douglas McArthur and various Japanese Warlords. Jay moved to Michigan in 1947, where he met and married his wife, Maye Weatherly, on January 19, 1951. Even though they were both from Alabama and had strong family ties there, they settled in Adrian where he was employed by the Tecumseh Products for 39 years, retiring in 1986. During his employment, he worked as a supervisor and in the White Room. Although health issues stopped him from attending meetings in the last few years, he was a lifelong Mason. In his spare time, Jay also worked as a professional photographer. Everyone relied on him to be the family photographer and he was always ready to capture family events on film. He particularly enjoyed taking pictures of his beloved granddaughters, as they were growing up. He was an avid Lions and Michigan Football fan, as well as Detroit Tiger fan. Jay also enjoyed fishing. The family of Jay would like to thank Dr. F. Buenaflor and her staff, along with the staffs at Herrick Rehab and Herrick Medical Center for the wonderful care they gave Jay and the care and understanding given to the family during this very difficult time. Visitation will be on Sunday, January 30, 2011, from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM at J. Gilbert Purse Funeral Home, Adrian. Military Honors will be at 4:30 PM conducted by the Michigan Army National Guard Honor Guard. Private graveside ceremony and burial of cremains will take place at a later date in Lenawee Hills Memorial Park. Condolences can be offered online at: [www.pursefuneralhome.com](http://www.pursefuneralhome.com)

**Adrian Chapel**

2959 N. Adrian Hwy. (M-52)  
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Manager / Gary Purse

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**Tecumseh Chapel**

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