On January 15, 2013, Coy took his last breathe here and entered into the presence of The Lord.

He was born on January 30, 1925, to Robert Leander and Lucy Norris in the little valley where he lived most of his life, just off Castle Ford Road, in Boone. When he was only 5, in 1930, his mother passed on and Robert remarried Nina - who became just like a mother to Coy and the rest of the children, later adding more children to the family.

When Uncle Sam called, in 1944, he answered and was deployed to the European Theater of Operations with the 18th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Army. He served as Sergeant, supervising and directing five enlisted men with a 60 MM mortar in combat operations, participated in three major battles, including the Battle of the Bulge, against enemy personnel and targets as a gunsmith, and finished his term guarding the prisoners during the trials at Nuremberg in Germany.

When he returned to the States, he traveled down the road a piece, to Todd to call on the daughter of Clint and Cordie Reid and claim her as his bride. Coy Jake and Elsie Jean were married on January 18, 1947 and loved each other dearly until death parted them on May 20, 2004.

Coy was a farmer and a carpenter. Most everyone that knew him can recall a prank - he was indeed a jokester - he loved to laugh, and delighted in the laughter of other. He was a member, and served as Deacon at South Fork Baptist Church, attending faithfully until he was no longer able. He was a quiet man - but he loved the Lord.

Many loved ones have gone on before: his mother and father; Maw Nina; a precious daughter, Sandra; a baby sister, Bertie; sister Jessie Padgett; brother Raevon; brothers-in-law Harold Stanberry and Edwin Denney; sister-in-law, Lena Norris; brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Leslie and Osa Norris; brother-in-law Paul Reid; and his of course, his precious loving wife, Elsie.

"Papaw", as he was lovingly known, is survived by three sons: Denny and wife, Charlotte, of Boone; Ricky and wife, Sandra, who reside in Statesville; and Eddie and wife, Ellen, of Boone. He and Elsie were the proud grandparents of seven grandchildren: Christy and husband, Wendell Fox; Derrick Norris; Charity and her husband, Brandon Austin; Hannah and her husband, John Blackman; Melody and her husband, Ryan Burleson; Brittany Norris; and Aaron Norris. Also carrying on his legacy are seven great-grandchildren: Dakota Norris; Daniel Norris; Alexis Bryant; Coy Logan Bryant; Faith Blackman; Cameron Blackman, and Emma Grace Blackman. Also remaining are dearly loved brother, and sisters: Estle Norris, Maebelle Denney, Betsy Stanberry, Unadell, and husband David Ward,sister-in-law, Bea Norris; and a number of nieces and nephews, and many friends and neighbors.

Funeral Services will be held at South Fork Baptist Church in Todd at 2:00 PM, on Saturday, January 19, 2013, with the Reverend Homer Murdock and the Reverend Gary Watson officiating. Military graveside rites and burial, provided American Legion Post 130 and Disabled American Veterans Chapter 90, will follow in the Norris/Tabernacle Cemetery, just off Milton Moretz Road.

The family will receive friends at the church, from 1:00 until 2:00 PM, on Saturday prior to the funeral service.

Coy adored children and they seemed to love him. He would often be found reaching for a perfect stranger's child in a restaurant and the child reaching right back to him. Because of his great love of children, memorials may be made to South Fork Baptist Church Playground Fund, in care of Linda Norris, PO Box 27, Todd, North Carolina, 28684, or to the Norris/Tabernacle Cemetery Fund, in care of Glenna S. Hollar, 3144 North Pine Run Road, Boone, North Carolina, 28607.

Online condolences may be sent to the Norris family at www.hamptonfuneralnc.com.

Hampton Funeral and Cremation Service is in charge of the arrangements.