

Nichols, George M.



George Maurice Nichols, 98, of Sedalia, formerly of Otterville, died on August 31, 2008 at Bothwell Hospital in Sedalia. He had lived 12 years at Four Season Living Center.

He was born February 5, 1910, to Thomas Franklin and Lena Ann Finley Nichols, near Otterville, MO. On August 9, 1935, he married Jessie May Wear, who preceded him in death on November 29, 1992. Mr. Nichols was a member of the Wesley United Methodist Church in Sedalia. He was a retired school administrator and teacher. Among the many positions he held throughout his career were superintendent of school and basketball coach at Meadville, instructor of history and geopolitics at the University of Missouri-Columbia, history teacher at St. Charles High School, history and geography teacher at Jefferson City Junior College, a case worker for the Missouri State Correctional System, elementary principal at Smithton, elementary principal at Raymore-Peculiar and elementary supervisor at Tipton, Syracuse, and Fortuna prior to his retirement in September, 1972. Among Mr. Nichols' enduring assets was his sense of humor and his deep interest in keeping in touch with all his long-time friends. One of his remarkable talents was being able to walk on his hands. In the last decade, Mr. Nichols had donated a tract of land and money to the city of Otterville, and had been actively involved in promoting and nurturing a new city park on the south side of town, which was dedicated in June, 1997 as "Nichols Memorial Park". More land was donated and the park was expanded in 2005, when his farm and homestead of 63 years, "Dunroven", was sold.

He is survived by two sons—John Franklin Nichols of the Kansas City area, and James Maurice Nichols, of Poughkeepsie, NY; and four grandchildren.

Services for Mr. Nichols will be at 11:00 AM Thursday, September 4, 2008 at the Meisenheimer Funeral Home in Otterville. Burial will be in the IOOF Cemetery in Otterville.

Visitation will be from Wednesday, September 3 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM at the funeral home in Otterville.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the City of Otterville Memorial Park Fund. c/o Bank of Otterville, PO Box 18, Otterville, MO 65348.

Published in the SedaliaDemocrat.com on 9/2/2008