

Obituary for Charles Ashcraft



Charles R. Ashcraft, age 88, of Venice, Florida and formerly of Harrison, Michigan, passed away surrounded by his family on August 11, 2011 at the Tidewell Hospice of Venice, Florida after a three week illness. He was born the son of Roy E. and Kathleen M. (Payne) Ashcraft on June 6, 1923 in Newark, Ohio. He graduated from Mt. Pleasant High School in 1941, and then attended Central Michigan University. Later, he moved to Temple Michigan and worked with Pure Oil before opening his first small general store there. He married Dorothy L. Brown on July 12, 1945 in Harrison, Michigan. She preceded him in death on November 18, 1994. He and Dorothy moved to Harrison in 1949, and opened their first Ashcraft's Markets in downtown Harrison. Together, this devoted husband and wife team, served the Mid-Michigan area for forty-nine years until retiring in 1988. After Dorothy's passing, he was united in marriage to Loleta Hatfied in 1996. Along with running his business, he was also active with: Harrison Community School's Board of Education, Mid Michigan Bank (now known PNC), Harrison Lumber Company, Michigan Food Dealers, Grocer Baking Company, Country Fresh Dairy, Spartan Stores Inc., and the Harrison Kiwanis Club among others.

He is survived by his wife Loleta Mulliken Ashcraft of Venice, Florida; his son, Dan and wife (Colleen) of Harrison; his three daughters, Nicholie Ashcraft of Sarasota, Florida, Kathleen and (Dave) Ferguson of Sarasota, Florida and Patricia and (Matt) Comer of Traverse City, Michigan; eleven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and his wife, Dorothy. Visitation will be held on Wednesday, August 17, 2011 from 4:00 - 8:00 p.m. at the Stocking Funeral Home in Harrison. Funeral services will be held on Thursday, August 18, 2011 at 11:00 a.m. at the First Congregational Church in Harrison with Pastor Jerry Baxter officiating. Burial will take place in the Maple Grove Cemetery in Harrison. Memorial contributions may be considered to the Charles and Dorothy Ashcraft Foundation. Arrangements were entrusted with the Stocking Funeral Home of Harrison, Michigan. Charles will be greatly missed by his family, friends, and the Harrison Community.

To send flowers to the family or plant a tree in memory of Charles Ashcraft, please visit our [Heartfelt Sympathies Store](#).