



## **Darrell Pat Shires**

**October 18, 1931 – July 26, 2015**

(From Rose Mortuary Mann Funeral Home July 2015)

Darrell Pat Shires age 83, passed away Sunday morning, July 26, 2015.

Pat was born on October 18, 1931 to Cecil Edgar and Okey Ora Shires.

He grew up in Hinton, WV, where he was a star three-sport athlete and named the West Virginia High School Football Player of the Year in 1947. Following in the footsteps of his brother Abe, an All-American tackle for the Vols in 1939 & 1940, Pat attended the University of Tennessee on a football scholarship. Playing for legendary coach, General Robert R. Neyland, he was a member of the 1951 National Championship team. With a lifelong love for UT, Pat was a past president of the UT Letterman's Club and an active member of the Knoxville Quarterback Club. Additionally, along with several of his former teammates and the UT Athletic Department, Pat was instrumental in the effort to build a Letterman's Wall on campus and to secure the placement of a statue of General Neyland outside the stadium.

He is preceded in death by his parents; his brothers, Ervin, Abe, & Paul Shires; and sister, Marie Johnson.

He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Joy Wright Shires; his sister, Mary Kathryn Carter; his three children, Cathy (Steve) Wilson, Pat (Judy) Shires, & Kevin (Mary Jo) Shires; his eight grandchildren, Patrick (Kelly), Katie, Ben, Preston, & Jack Shires, and Sam, Marshall, & Elizabeth Joy Wilson; and several nieces and nephews.

The family will receive friends on Thursday from 5:00 – 7:00 pm at Rose Mortuary Mann Heritage Chapel with a memorial service to follow at 7:00 with Dr. Bryan Wilson.