Samuel Knowles

Samuel "Sammy" Knowles, 75, of East Palatka, slipped away at 6 a.m. Tuesday, July 4, after a period of illness at Haven Hospice Roberts Care Center in Palatka.

He was born on a cold winter day, Wednesday, Dec. 17, 1930, the seventh child of Jeremiah and Branhilda Knowles. "Sammy" was a very happy-go-lucky personality all of his life, educated in Broward Schools and was gainfully employed by the city of Boca Raton. He grew up in a Christian home and developed his character by being a kind-hearted individual. He later moved to East Palatka and shared with his wife a loving and caring surrounding.

His devoted and loving wife, Beatrice Knowles, will cherish his memories, along with his children, Helen Williamson and husband, the Rev. James, Leonard Knowles and wife, Wonder, Samuel Knowles, Mavis (Maurice) Gordon, Alberto Mchellan, Brenda Person, Blossom Florence and husband, Larry, Daisy William and husband, Byron, and Judy Brown Young; 20 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; siblings, Ormand Knowles and wife, Eve, Lauderhill Mae Knowles Campbell, Vesa Knowles Cox and Sylvia Poitier; and a host of nephews, nieces, and friends who will miss him dearly.

Visitation was held from 6-8 p.m. Friday, July 7, at Watts Funeral Home Chapel. A celebration of "Sammy's" life will be at 1 p.m. Saturday (today), July 8. Interment will follow at Pattersonville Cemetery in East Palatka.

Watts Funeral Homes, Inc. in San Mateo is in charge of the arrangements.