

Atchison, KS

Samuel Lester Hitchens, Sr., 88, Atchison, KS, passed away Thursday, October 23, 2014 at Atchison Medicalodge.

Memorial Services will be 10:30 AM, Thursday, October 30, at the Faith Valley Church of God, 1014 Ann St., Atchison. Burial will follow at 1:30 pm in the Leavenworth National Cemetery, Leavenworth, KS with Military Honors. Family will receive friends from 9:30 until service time at the church. Memorial contributions are suggested to the family to help with final expenses. Words of comfort and remembrance may be left online at [www.beckerdyer.com](http://www.beckerdyer.com).

Samuel was born May 31, 1926 in Holden, MO, the son of Elmer and Erma (Cash) Hitchens. Sam graduated from Atchison High School and joined the US Army in 1950, serving during the Korean War. He worked as an automobile mechanic at Woods Garage in Atchison prior to his military service. Upon returning home Sam worked at Zand & Pruesner Ford as a mechanic. Sam was known as "Carburetor" because of his ability to repair and rebuild them. He enjoyed bowling, playing horseshoes, fishing, and playing pool. Sam was a member of the American Legion Post #6 and VFW Post #1175, both of Atchison.

Samuel and Jennie High were married on January 31, 1953 in Atchison, KS.

Survivors include his wife of sixty-one years, Jennie, of the home; son, Samuel (Cheryl) Hitchens, Jr., St. Joseph, MO; three daughters, Janet Hitchens, Shirley (Gary) McClanahan, Sandra (McKenzie) Hinton, all of Atchison; sister, Mary Servaes, Rushville, MO; ten grandchildren and numerous great grandchildren.

Sam was preceded in death by his parents; four brothers, Hubert, Lawrence, Joseph, and Robert Hitchens; sister, Edna Ryan.