Jerry W. Branson

JOPLIN, Mo. - Jerry W. Branson, 54, of Joplin, Mo., died at 6:35 p.m. Friday, April 2, 2004, as the result of a motor vehicle accident.

He was born March 4, 1950, at Jefferson City, Mo., to Clarence and Shirley Branson.

He had lived in Joplin for the last 6 years. He retired from American Family Insurance Co. after nine years in sales. He also was a sheet metal worker in the heat and air business.

He was a member of South Broadway Baptist Church in Pittsburg, the Scottish Rite, and the Pittsburg Mirza Shrine, the Pittsburg Auto Club, and the Galena Auto Club.

He married Cherie Watson on Nov. 4, 1977, at Wichita. She survives.

Additional survivors include two daughters, DeeDra Branson of Wichita and Amy Kathline Branson of St. Louis; one son, Jerry Wayne Branson Jr. of Alaska; his parents of Holt's Summit, Mo.; one brother, Edward Branson of Jefferson City; two sisters, Joan Jinson of St. Elizabeth, Mo., and Kathy (Brandy) Planter of Jefferson City; and two grandchildren.

Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Thornhill-Dillion Mortuary Chapel in Joplin with the Rev. Paul Sims officiating. Burial will be at 3 p.m. Wednesday in Little Sandy Cemetery in Toronto, Kan. The family will receive friends from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at the mortuary. Arrangements are under the direction of Thornhill-Dillion Mortuary.

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