



John Alfred Bidwell

July 18, 1923 - May 20, 2020

On May 21st 2020 John Bidwell departed this life after spending more than 96 years living a very full life. John was born on July 18, 1923 in Charleston, SC while his father was stationed at an area Army base while serving as a military surgeon. In 1925 the family moved to Tampa, Florida. John called Tampa home until World War II when John served honorably in the US Navy working as a lab technician in Virginia. John graduated from the University of Florida in 1947 with a bachelor's degree from the College of Agriculture. In the same year he married Grace B. Theige and started their family two years later. John's agriculture degree moved him into raising cattle on his ranch, the Flying Heart Ranch, located Southeast of Tampa. Moving from ranching to feed sales John worked for Purina Mills at several locations in and around Orlando. He found his niche in furniture sales which he pursued for the bulk of his career. Ormond Beach became home for the next 50 years until he came to live with his son and daughter in law in Tallahassee where he spent the last seven years of his life. John was a consummate outdoors man enjoying hunting, fishing, and sailing for most of his life.

John leaves behind a large loving family; four children John Anthony Bidwell and wife Patrice of Tallahassee, Liza Bidwell also of Tallahassee, Barbara Bidwell Black and husband, Ken of Jacksonville and Christopher C. Bidwell and wife Yvonne of Atlanta. He also leaves behind nine grandchildren and five great grandchildren. A family memorial service will take place in Tampa during the summer after the Covid 19 pandemic passes. Todd Wahlquist with Bevis

Funeral Home (85-385-2193, www.bevisfh.com) is assisting the family with their arrangements.