



## Raymond Sutton

January 26, 1924 - April 25, 2018

Raymond Sutton, age 94, died peacefully on Wednesday, April 25, 2018, at the Tennova Convalescent Center in Newport, Tennessee. He had been in declining health for the past several months. He was born on January 26, 1924, in Monroe County, Tennessee, the third child of Claude and Effie Sutton. A World War II veteran, Raymond joined the army upon graduation from Monroe County High School. He served three years, 18 months of which were spent overseas in the European Theatre. Upon returning from the war, Raymond entered Tennessee Wesleyan College in Athens where he met and later married Kathleen in 1947. After graduating from Tennessee Wesleyan, he entered the University of Tennessee graduating with a Bachelor's Degree in Agriculture. Raymond and Kathleen came to Cocke County in 1949 upon his employment with the UT Agricultural Extension Service as the first full-time 4-H agent in the county. He enjoyed his work and touched the lives of many Cocke County boys and girls. He conducted club meetings in the schools each month where young people presented demonstrations, gave speeches, learned parliamentary procedure and acquired life skills. Raymond was especially known for his work with livestock projects and judging teams. He always gave great credit to the 4-H volunteers who assisted with the program. Later, Raymond served as the county Extension Leader doing adult work. He worked with farmers in all phases of livestock and crop production, especially when they were growing tomatoes for packing. Tobacco producers also called upon him when they were having problems with their crop. He served the

people of Cocke County for 37 years until his retirement in 1986. Raymond was active in community affairs. He served as director of the Chamber of Commerce. He was a member of the Newport Lions Club and served as president. He received the Melvin Jones Fellowship Award, the highest level of recognition given to a Lions member. He was voted Lion of the Year and received the Youth Exchange Award as result of his activities with international students. Raymond was an active member of the First United Methodist Church for 68 years and served it in many capacities. Raymond led a full life after his retirement. He enjoyed both vegetable and flower gardening. He was especially proud of his irises and day lilies. He liked sharing his vegetables with friends and received many compliments on his garden from motorists as they traveled up and down the Greeneville Highway. He loved to travel visiting more than 17 countries on six continents. He enjoyed hosting international adults through the Friendship Force of Knoxville. He was active participant in the 4-H Labo Japanese and IFYE exchange programs. He also opened his home to many international students from the University of Tennessee, Tennessee Wesleyan College, Hiwassee College and Tennessee Meiji Gakuin High School and was known as "Papa Sutton" to many of them. He truly had friends around the world. He is survived by his wife of 70 years Kathleen Sutton of Parrottsville; sons Stephen Sutton of Knoxville and Dr. David Sutton (Linda) of Parrottsville; daughters Jana Chambers of Parrottsville and Lilly Sutton of Knoxville; grandchildren Dr. Joseph Sutton (Anna) of Greeneville, Thomas Sutton (Tia) of Billings, MT, Michael Chambers (Staci) of Durham, NC, Katie Chambers Robertson (Chris) Kennesaw, GA; eight great grandchildren; brother Kenneth Sutton of Kingston and sister Claudia Atkins of Madisonville. He is preceded in death by his parents Claude and Effie Mae Bledsoe Sutton, sister, Louise Green and brothers Gillis and J.C. Sutton. Raymond's life will be celebrated during a memorial service at the First United Methodist in Newport on Monday, April 30, 2018, beginning at 7:00 p.m. The family will receive friends from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the church with the memorial service immediately following. The family will hold a

private interment at Union Cemetery in Newport. In lieu of flowers, gifts may be sent to the First United Methodist Church, 212 Washington Avenue, Newport, TN 37821 or the Tennessee 4-H Foundation, 2621 Morgan Circle, Room 205, Knoxville, TN 37996-4510.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Raymond Sutton*

November 17, 2022 at 06:00 PM



“ *Raymond Sutton was such a fine man. We know that you will miss him very much. Our community has greatly missed his caring and his intelligent and kind support to our agricultural community.*

**Bill Hicks & Diana Steinfeld Hicks** - May 19, 2018 at 12:00 AM



“ *We would like to express our sincere condolences to Mr. Raymond SuttonÆs Family. We were very proud of his friendship and of the moments we shared together in Knoxville, Parrotsville and in Brazil, when he came to visit us.*

**Ligia Soto and Wilson Vieira** - May 02, 2018 at 12:00 AM



“ *Raymond was a very kind and wonderful person. He will be missed and we ask the Lord to comfort his family and friends.*

**Jerry w Phillips** - May 02, 2018 at 12:00 AM



“ *Jana & the Sutton Family, I am so sorry about your Dad's passing. You and your family are in my thoughts & prayers during this time.*

**Kim Loveday** - May 01, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JK

“ Enjoyed having breakfast with Raymond and the crew @ Tucker's. A fine man has left our county but will not be forgotten.

Jeff and Julie Kyker - May 01, 2018 at 12:00 AM

GP

“ I have always credited Raymond for where I am today. Raymond recruited me after college for a Program Assistant position at the Cocke County Extension Office. To this day I'm not sure how he found me. Raymond was the kind of agent that worked with Specia

Gary Palmer - May 01, 2018 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ Mr. Raymond Sutton will forever be remembered as the very kind man who once took my father, Mr. Maury Couto, to visit different farms in East Tennessee. My father was visiting me all the way from Brazil. Mr. Sutton will be sorely missed by our entire fami

Lucia Furukawa Couto - April 30, 2018 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ You are in our thoughts and prayers during this time of loss. áYou all have always been so special to the Chester and ReVel Bell family. áWhat opportunities and fun times we had with all of our 4-H activities because of Mr. Sutton. áHe will be truly misse

Betty jo (Bell) Ford - April 30, 2018 at 12:00 AM

LH

“ Prayers!

Louise and Jimmy Hux - April 30, 2018 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ Thoughts and Prayers for the Sutton Family! áHe served our community well. á

**Dolly Blazer** - April 30, 2018 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ Kathleen and family: We extend our deepest sympathies to you in your loss. Mom and Dad considered your family true friends over much of their life and we all had fond memories of our younger years together. Raymond was always a very positive role model

**Bill and Darlene Barger** - April 29, 2018 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Prayers

**mansfield mcmahan** - April 28, 2018 at 12:00 AM

RL

“ Dear Sutton family : Our thoughts and prayers go out to you all. Jennifer and I loved Mr. Sutton and have so many good memories of 4-H. Please know that we, like so many thousands of children, benefited from his service. I know Tom and Vista Stokely lo

**Russell Lamb** - April 28, 2018 at 12:00 AM

CV

“ Deepest Sympathy

**CHRIS VALENTINE** - April 28, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Our sympathy

**Jeanenne Ownby & family** - April 28, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ So sorry for your loss.

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**Jessica Mason-Hansel** - April 28, 2018 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you.

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**Betty Harrison** - April 28, 2018 at 12:00 AM

TH

“ So sorry to hear of the passing of Mr., Sutton. I came to know him at my days working with Premier Therapy. He was such a kind person. Prayers for all of you.

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**Twila Hughes** - April 27, 2018 at 12:00 AM

KV

“ Prayers lefted for the family.

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**Kimberly Sue Vick** - April 27, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ Prayers for the family.

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**Jay & Mary Ann Chrisman** - April 27, 2018 at 12:00 AM

BD

“ Sending our heartfelt love and sympathy to all the family.

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**Bud & Linda Dawson** - April 27, 2018 at 12:00 AM

LM

“ Sorry to hear of Mr. Sutton's passing. We will be praying for you.

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**Lois Andrews Meadows** - April 27, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ *Deepest Sympathy*

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**June Holt Russell** - April 27, 2018 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ *I know three men that are rejoicing now in Heaven-Raymond Sutton, Jay Gaddis, and Eugene Fancher.....they enjoyed each others company. The extended Fancher family and I pray for God's comfort at this time. His was a life well lived.*

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**Ray Fancher** - April 27, 2018 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ *So sorry just know we are praying for you and your family.*

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**Brian and Lisa Fredette** - April 27, 2018 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ *Sorry to learn pf the passing of Mr. Sutton. He has asset to the County. He will be missed by all that he touched. My thoughts and prayers are with the family.*

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**Chuck Strange** - April 27, 2018 at 12:00 AM