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James J. Jardina Jr. dies at age 82

February 24, 2008

James J. Jardina Jr., former president and chief executive officer of J.J. Jardina Co. Inc. in Atlanta, died Feb. 13 from complications from pneumonia.

Mr. Jardina was born Nov. 23, 1925 in Gainesville, GA, and graduated from the University of Georgia after serving in the U.S. Army during World War II. An avid fan of the University of Georgia, Mr. Jardina was an active member of the team's mascot organization, the Bulldog Club, where he enjoyed food and fellowship. He also enjoyed golf. He was a member of the Berkeley Hills Country Club and the Georgia Seniors. He was also a long-time member of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church in Atlanta.

J.J. Jardina Co., located on the Atlanta State Farmers Market, is a major distributor of fresh fruit to a widespread area of the Southeast. It sources product from all major production areas of the world. Mr. Jardina ran the family business for many years.

"Jimmy semi-retired several years ago, but he continued to come to the office on a regular basis," said Mike Jardina, president of the company and Mr. Jardina's nephew. "He had various illnesses in his later years, and he died of complications from pneumonia."

Mr. Jardina is survived by his brother and sister-in-law, Philip and Angela Jardina, one niece, five nephews, eight grandnieces and seven grandnephews.

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