

Lem “Junior” Darden Retires from Anthony Forest Products’ Urbana Sawmill

“Junior” was born October 13, 1928, in Mount Holly, Arkansas, and is now 77 years old. Junior worked for J.W. Reynolds Sawmill in Smackover, Arkansas, for two years before he was hired by Anthony Forest on January 1, 1950, at the age of 22. When Junior began working for the Company, he was making \$0.75 cents an hour and stated that everything was done by hand – no forklifts, only a farm tractor, to move the lumber on lumber buggies, and all the lumber was stacked by hand. Junior remembers that he was the first employee to ever drive a forklift at the Urbana



sawmill – sometime in the late 1950s. His favorite hobby when he was younger was baseball, and he played as often as he could with a group of friends. He now likes to play tackle football when he gets a chance!!! (Junior loves to joke! At least, we think that he is joking...!!)He also likes to fish in his pond where he catches his favorite fish, bream; he likes to chew tobacco – Skoal, of course; and he likes to drive his four-wheeler more than his car because it gets better gas mileage. Junior and his wife, **Joyce**, have been married for 53 years, and they have two sons, one daughter, and seven grandchildren. In all the years he has been with the Company, he can remember missing only 30 days of work out of 14,257 days. Junior’s final comment was that he has loved all the jobs which he has had with the Company, that he regrets nothing, and that Anthony Forest has been very good to him these 56 years. Currently, Junior has the most seniority at the Company, and we deeply appreciate him and his loyalty!!