

Putnam's oldest veteran to celebrate 100th birthday

Putnam County, TN

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Putnam County's oldest veteran **Lehman Riggs** will celebrate his 100th birthday Jan. 16 at 6 p.m. at the Leslie Town Centre.

A 100th birthday celebration for Mr. Lehman Riggs, Putnam County's oldest veteran, will be Thursday, Jan. 16 at 6 p.m. at the Leslie Town Center in Cookeville.



Riggs served as a machine gunner in the 2nd Infantry Division during the Battle of the Bulge in World War II. After serving his country, he worked for the U.S. Postal Service before retiring and moving to Cookeville.

As the oldest member of the all-volunteer Veterans Honor Guard, Riggs has participated in ceremonies at more than 1,000 funerals, playing "Taps" for the deceased soldiers.

Riggs' birthday event is sponsored by the Veterans Honor Guard. Tickets are \$12 each, which includes the meal and are limited to the first 200 people due to space restrictions.

Tickets may be purchased until Jan. 8 by calling Jim McAfee at 931-516-3207 or by picking them up at the Putnam County Mayor's Office on the

bottom floor of the Courthouse.

A CENTURY OF SERVICE



* Putnam County officials proclaim Lehman Riggs' birthday, Jan. 17, as "Lehman Riggs Day". County Mayor Randy Porter presents Riggs with the proclamation at his birthday party Thursday. By Paige Stange: Herald Citizen, 16 January 2020.



The oldest Putnam County World War II veteran turns 100 years old today, Jan. 17. His family, friends and county officials celebrate with a birthday party Thursday evening at the Leslie Town Centre. By Paige Stange: Herald Citizen, 16 January 2020.

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