

Mary Evelyn (Davis) Birdwell Obt.

COOKEVILLE -- Funeral services for Mary Evelyn Birdwell, 75, of Cookeville will be held Tuesday, Dec. 4, at 1 p.m. from the Cookeville chapel of Hooper-Huddleston & Horner Funeral Home.

Burial will be in Crest Lawn Memorial Cemetery.

Family will receive friends today, Monday, Dec. 3, from 5-8 p.m. and Tuesday, Dec. 4, from 11 a.m. until time of services at the funeral home.

Mrs. Birdwell died Saturday, Dec. 1, 2007, at Cookeville Regional Medical Center.

She was born May 30, 1932, in White County to the late Oscar Madison and Willie Katherine Moore Davis.

Mrs. Birdwell was a member of Willow Avenue Church of Christ. She was a retired bookkeeper in the Upper Cumberland area with several businesses, including Tellus Hale CPA in Sparta and Life of Georgia in Cookeville.

Mrs. Birdwell was a force of nature, always busy with something. She loved to read and instilled in her children a serious appreciation for the written word. Believing that idle hands were indeed the devil's workshop, she eagerly indulged in craft projects of various kinds, most recently painting in watercolors. Over decades she amassed and organized a catalog of family photographs, creating family albums that date from the 1920's to the present. She also loved to talk and would regale people with stories for as long as they were willing to listen. Mrs. Birdwell spent most of the last 10 years tending to her invalid husband and her mother until their deaths in 2005 and 2006.

Her family includes her son and daughter-in-law, Dr. Michael E. and Tammy O'dell Birdwell of Cookeville; two daughters and a son-in-law, Diane and Larry Ragland of Disputanta, Va., and Brenda Birdwell of Thousand Oaks, Calif.; a brother and sister-in-law, Bob and Sue Davis of Baxter; three grandchildren, Hillary Ragland Getsy, Vanessa Ragland-Irwin and Brian Smight; and two great-grandchildren, Thomas and Dylan Getsy.

In addition to her parents, Mrs. Birdwell was preceded in death by her husband, William E. Birdwell, on July 9, 2005.

Pallbearers will be John Nisbett, Charlie Phillips, Donnie King, Roger Fuqua, Monte Manus and Carl Myers.

Honorary pallbearers will be Bob Davis, Bill Smith, Don Wagnon, Elves Myers, Jack Herd, Jeff Turner and Fred Barlow.

Bro. Clarence DeLoach and Rev. Handleston will officiate the services.

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*See William "Bill" Edward Birdwell in the Birdwell files at: <http://www.ajlambert.com>