

## SPEARS CEMETERY

Putnam Co., TN

GPS Coordinates: 36.0531370, -85.6728890

<http://www.ajlambert.com>

### Elisabeth "Besty" (Jones) Bennett Obt.

b. 18 December 1824, Jackson Co., TN – d. 12 February 1912, Putnam Co., TN, md on the 9<sup>th</sup> of April 1843 to **Henry Leonidas Bennett**, s/o **Walker Bennett & Charity Hughes**. Elisabeth "Besty" (Jones) Bennett, d/o **Prettyman Jones & Sarah Rebecca Hitchcock/Hedgecough**.

(**Source:** Tennessee State Marriage record, White Co., TN (1839-1910), pg. 15 – Leonidas H. Bennett married 9 April 1843, White Co., TN to Elizabeth E. Jones). "Leonidas H Bennett to Elizabeth E Jones. 8 Apr 1843. Solemnized 9 Apr 1843 by Thomas Jone Esq. Date Recoded in Apr1843."

"Granny Bennett" was the daughter of Prettyman Jones b.1772 in Sussex, DE and Sarah Rebecca Hitchcock/Hedgecough, b.1773 in Jackson Co, TN. She married Leonidas Bennett b.1821 TN and had seven children; Susannah b. 1847, White CO. TN, Rebecca Jane, b.1847, White Co, TN, Charity Ann, b. 1849 White Co, TN, Thomas b. 1850, White CO. TN, Sarah/Sally b.1853, White Co. TN, Margaret, b. 1857 White Co. TN, and James R, b. 1860, White CO, TN. Her husband Leonidas is rumored to be buried in this same cemetery, grave unknown. He disappears from the census by 1870. My Grandfather, James Wilson Dunn, remembered her fondly. He was 10 years old when she died. His Father Asbury Dunn, died in 1909, leaving a widow and four young children. Granny was part of their household. He said that to save time and get more work done, rather than return to the house after a day of plowing, she would rub bacon fat on her feet to keep her mules from running off, and lie down to sleep next to the row she had last finished. Next morning, she would rise up and continue where she had left off. By all accounts, she was a remarkable woman.

### Rebecca Jane "Becky Jane" Bennett Obt.

b. 1847, White Co., TN – d. 1878, White Co., TN, md on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December 1861, White Co., TN to **Robinson Peake**. Rebecca Jane "Becky Jane" Bennett, d/o **Henry Leonidas Bennett & Elisabeth "Besty" (Jones) Bennett** (1824-1912).

(**Source:** Tennessee State Marriage record, White Co., TN, pg. 65 – Robenson Peak married 3 December 1861, White Co., TN to Miss Rebecca J. Bennett)

Daughter of Henry Leonidas Bennett and Elizabeth Jones. In 1861, at the age of 14, she married Robinson Peake b.1839, White County, TN. He was a member of the Union army, 5th TN Calvary, and died in a Nashville hospital in 1865. Later, she married Jim W Dunn, son of John Allen Dunn b.1802 VA, and Catherine Lafever b. 1805 Wayne County, KY. They had two sons, Asbury W b.1876 DeKalb Co TN, William Harve, b. 1873 DeKalb CO, TN and a daughter, Sarah Elizabeth. b. 1869 who mar. Ozias C Carr. There is said to have been another daughter, Randi, but that search is ongoing. For some

reason, possibly illness, her daughters were raised by other families. Like his Father before him, Jim W was a potter. The story is that he was killed by a brother-in-law while peddling pottery in Dickson Co, TN sometime before 1880. His grave is currently unknown. Rebecca is said to be buried in this cemetery near her Mother, Elizabeth and son, Asbury. The grave is unmarked, and its location also unknown.

### **George H. Burton**

b. 14 June 1936 – d. 5 February 1985, md on the 29<sup>th</sup> of December 1956, Putnam Co., TN to **Loretta (Williams) Burton**, b. 16 April 1939, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN – d. 4 December 2014, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN, d/o **Wilburn Loftis Williams** (1914-1997) & **Lillian Edna Rice** (1922-2009). George H. Burton, s/o **William Earl Burton** (1913-1963) & **Emma Myrtle Jones** (1911-1994).

### **William Earl Burton Obt.**

b. 22 July 1913. DeKalb Co., TN – d. 10 January 1963, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN (Veteran WWII), md on the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 1933, DeKalb Co., TN to **Emma Myrtle (Jones) Burton**, b. 2 November 1911 – d. 14 October 1994.

(**Source:** Tennessee State Marriage record, DeKalb Co., TN, pg. 295 – William Earl Burton married 31 December 1933, DeKalb Co., TN to Myrtle Jones).

William Earl Burton, 49, died Thursday at Cookeville General Hospital following a brief illness.

Funeral services were held Saturday at the Ozion Baptist Church with Rev Raymond Peak officiating. Burial was in Spears cemetery.

A merchant of Baxter, Rt 2, Burton was a native of DeKalb County, the son of George and Dora Maynard Burton. He was a veteran of WWII.

Survivors are his wife, Mrs. Myrtle Burton; two daughters, Mrs. Redith Odum, Nashville; Mrs. Dollie Roberts, Cookeville; four brothers, Clearon, Baxter; Fred and Junior Burton, both of Nashville; Louis Burton.

### **George Henry Doak**

b. 23 January 1922 – d. 22 January 1994, (US Army WWII), md on the 30<sup>th</sup> of December 1957, Putnam Co., TN to **Besty Ann (Jones) Doak**, b. 19 September 1919 – d. 1 January 1993.

(**Source:** Tennessee State Marriage record, Putnam Co., TN, pg. 237 – George Henry Doak married 30 December 1957, Putnam Co., TN, age 36, b. 23 January 1921 (*sic*), address: Rt. 2, Baxter, Putnam Co., TN to Betty Ann Jones, age 38, b. 19 September 1919, address: Rt. 2, Baxter, Putnam Co., TN. Name of parent, guardian or next of kin of female: Oscar Jones, brother, Rt. 2, Baxter, Putnam Co., TN).

**Infant Doak**

dates unknown

**Asbury W. "A. W." Dunn**

b. 6 August 1876 – d. 12 February 1909, md on the 6<sup>th</sup> of November 1898, DeKalb Co., TN to **Senie E. (Spears) Dunn**, b. 11 April 1881 – d. 31 July 1912.

(**Source:** Tennessee State Marriage record, DeKalb Co., TN, pg. 406 – A. W. Dunn married 6 November 1898, DeKalb Co., TN to Cenia Spears).

**Rita Joyce (Spears) Dyer**

b. 21 March 1937 –d. 29 January 2003, md on the 19<sup>th</sup> of December 1959, Putnam Co., TN to Kenneth Howard Dyer, b. 25 January 1923. Rita Joyce (Spears) Dyer, d/o John Cantrell Spears (189-1963) & Lena May Lafever, (1905-1988).

\*See John Cantrell Spears Obt.

(**Source:** Tennessee State Marriage record, Putnam Co., TN, pg. 309 – Kenneth Howard Dyer married 19 December 1959, Putnam Co., TN, age 36, b. 25 January 1923, address: Rt. 2, Cookeville, TN to Rita Joyce Spears, age 22, b. 21 February 1937, Rt. 2, Baxter, Putnam Co., TN. Name of Parent, guardian or next of kin of female:: J. C. Spears, father, Rt. 2, Baxter, TN).

**Betty Lou (Lafever) Eller Obt.**

b. 1 February 1930, Putnam Co., TN – d. 2 July 2014, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN, md on the 27<sup>th</sup> of June 1982, Putnam Co., TN to **William Howard Eller**, b. 16 September 1927. Betty Lou (Lafever) Eller, d/o **Christopher Columbus Lafever** (1896-1980) & **Maggie Spears** (1903-1987). Betty Lou (Lafever) Julian Eller also md **Calbert Calvin Julian** (1926-1979), s/o **Cornelius Julian** (1880-1956) & **Alcie Maynard** (1886-1958).

\*See Calbert Calvin Julian buried in Spears Cemetery.

\*See Christopher Columbus Lafever Obt.

(**Source:** Tennessee State Marriage record, Putnam Co., TN, pg. 449 – William Howard Eller, age 54, b. 16 September 1927, address: Rt. 4, Cookeville, TN married 27 June 1982, Putnam Co., TN to Betty Lou Julian, age 52, b. 1 February 1930, address; Rt. 2, Baxter, Putnam Co., TN. Name of parent, guardian or next of kin of female: Gail Julian, dau., Rt. 2, Baxter, Putnam Co., TN).

Funeral Services for Betty Lou Eller, age 84, of Baxter, will be Friday, July 4, 2014 at 11:00 a.m. in the Chapel of Dyer Funeral Home. The family will receive friends Thursday, July 3, 2014 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the funeral home. Burial will be in the Spear Cemetery.

Mrs. Eller passed away Wednesday, July 02, 2014, at Cookeville Regional Medical Center. She was born February 1, 1930 in Putnam County TN to the late Christopher Columbus Lafever and Maggie Spears Lafever. Betty was a loving wife, mother and grandmother who enjoyed being a homemaker after her retirement from McCords. She

and her husband, Howard, attended Nash Grove Baptist Church.

Betty is survived by her husband, William Howard Eller and two children; Gail Julian (friend Dennis Taylor) of Seneca, South Carolina and Ernie D. Julian (wife Tammy) of Baxter. In addition Mrs. Eller is survived by one grandson, Ethan Julian, a brother, Jack Harold Lafever (wife Lillian) of Baxter, and a sister; Ann Mahan (husband Robert) of Cookeville.

In addition to her parents, Betty was preceded in death by two sisters; Elva Jean Lafever and Cleo Herron, a brother, Lonnie Lafever and an infant brother; and a brother-in-law, Clarence Herron.

Pallbearers will be family and friends.

Brother Gary West will be conducting the service.

**Audrey Helen (Spears) Goff**

b. 7 September 1920, TN – d. 3 May 1997, md on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March 1943, Lucas, OH to **Benton McMillion Goff Sr.**, b. 29 December 1919, Omaha, NB – d. 24 April 2012, Oakland Co., MI, (Tec5 WWII US Army), s/o **McRoy “Mack” Goff** (1896-1936) & **Rachel Frances Ovella LaFever** (1899-1982), both buried in Goff Cemetery, DeKalb Co., TN. Benton McMillion Goff Sr. is buried in Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly, Oakland Co., MI. **Audrey Helen (Spears) Goff**, d/o **John Cantrell Spears** (1895-1963) & **Lena May Lafever** (1905-1988).

\*See John Cantrell Spears Obt.

**Almeda Henley**

b. March 1881 – d. 8 April.

**Infant son Herron**

b. & d. 1 February 1914, s/o **William A. Herron** (1882-1968) & **Emmeline Medley** (1877-1946), both buried in Dobbs Cemetery, Baxter, Putnam Co., TN.

**Myrtis Lula (Jones) Herron**

b. 7 December 1916, DeKalb Co., TN – d. 27 August 2006, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN, md on the 20<sup>th</sup> of June 1946, Putnam Co., TN to **Clennie Herron**, b. 22 January 1913, DeKalb Co., TN – d. 19 October 1985, Putnam Co, TN, s/o **Perry “Dock” Herron** (1885-1961) & **Mary Safrona Roberts** (1890-1950), all buried in Dobbs Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN.

(Source: Tennessee State Marriage record, Putnam Co., TN, pg. 481 – Clennie Herron married 20 June 1946, Putnam Co., TN, age 33, address: Silver Point, Putnam Co., TN to Myrtis Jones, age 29, address: Silver Point, Putnam Co., TN. Name of parent, guardian or next of kin of female: Jack Jones, Silver Point, Putnam Co., TN).

**Dr. Rex C. Herron**

b. 26 December 1948, Putnam Co., TN – b. 1 July 2016, Smith Co., TN, md on the 14<sup>th</sup> of October 1967, Putnam Co., TN to **Delana Anna (Rogers) Herron**, b. 12 September 1949. Dr. Rex C. Herron, s/o **Clennie Herron** (1913-1985) & **Myrtis L. Jones** (1916-2006).

\*See Myrtis L. (Jones) Herron buried in Spears Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN.

(**Source:** Tennessee State Marriage record, Putnam Co., TN, pg. 393 – Rex C. Herron married 14 October 1967, Putnam Co., TN, age 18, b. 26 December 1948, address: Baxter, TN to Delana Anna Rogers, age 18. b. 12 September 1949, address: Baxter, TN. Name of parent, guardian or next of kin of female: Mr. & Mrs. Alfred Rogers, parents, Baxter, Putnam Co., TN).

**Richard B. Herron Obt.**

b. 3 February 1940, Putnam Co., TN – d. 7 February 2020, Sparta, White Co., TN, (US Army), md April 1974, Marquette, WI to **Rosanna Marie (Gray) Herron**, b. 9 February 1952, Portage, Columbia Co., WI – d. 8 August 2013, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN, d/o **Frank & Anna Gray Jr.** Richard B. Herron, s/o **Clemmie Herron** (1913-1985) & **Myrtice Jones** (1916-2006).

\*See Myrtis L. (Jones) Herron buried in Spears Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN.

\*See Rosanna Marie (Gray) Herron Obt.

Richard B. Herron, age 80 of Cookeville, Tennessee passed from this life Friday, February 7, 2020, at Saint Thomas Highlands Hospital in Sparta, Tennessee.

He was born Saturday, February 3, 1940. He was the son of the late Clemmie and Myrtice (Jones) Herron.

Richard enlisted in the Army at an early age, servicing as a lineman. He located to California in 1963 and entered into his first marriage. Richard remarried the late Rosanna Gray in 1974 and they resided in Cookeville until his death.

Richard is survived by: 1 Daughter and Son-in-law: Debrah and Tom Parham; 4 Siblings: Ann (Eric) Sorenson, Neva Jo (Ron) Packingham, Hilda (Archie Deceased) Packingham, Ronnie (Sandra) Herron; and Multiple Nieces, Nephews, Great Nieces and Great Nephews.

In addition to his parents Richard was preceded in death by a Brother, Rex Herron, and a Sister: Neva Jo Packingham who passed peacefully February 12.

Graveside services for Richard will be held Saturday, February 22, 2020 beginning at 12:00 Noon, at Spears Cemetery in Baxter, Tennessee.

**Rosanna Marie (Gray) Herron Obt.**

b. 9 February 1952, Portage, Columbia Co., WI – d. 8 August 2013, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN, md April 1974, Marquette, WI to **Richard B. Herron**, b. 3 February 1940, Putnam Co., TN – d. 7 February 2020, Sparta, White Co., TN, (US Army), s/o **Clemmie**

**Herron (1913-1985) & Myrtice Jones (1916-2006).** Rosanna Marie (Gray) Herron, d/o **Frank & Anna Gray Jr.**

\*See Richard B. Herron Obt.

**BAXTER** — Funeral services for Rosanna "Rose" Maria Herron, 61, of Cookeville, will be held at 1 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 12, from the Baxter Chapel of Hooper-Huddleston & Horner Funeral Home. Interment will be in Spears Cemetery.

The family will receive friends from 6-8 p.m. today, Sunday, Aug. 11, and after 11 a.m. on Monday at the funeral home.

Mrs. Herron died Thursday, Aug. 8, 2013, in Cookeville Regional Medical Center.

She was born Feb. 9, 1952, in Portage, Wis., to Anna Gray of Briggsville, Wis., and the late Frank Gray Jr.

Mrs. Herron was a registered nurse in December 2012 with Cookeville Regional Medical Center, with more than 35 years of service.

She loved making flower arrangements for family and decorations, fishing and gardening.

In addition to her mother, her family includes her husband of 40 years, Richard B. Herron of Cookeville; a sister, Janet (Joel) Andres of Briggsville, Wis.; two brothers, Frank (Kathy) Gray of West Baraboo, Wis., and Robin (Alice) Gray of Tomahawk, Wis.; sisters and brothers-in-law, Hilda Packingham of Cookeville, Jo (Ron) Packingham of Hermitage, Ann (Eric) Sorenson of Crocker, Mo., Ron (Sandy) Herron of Baxter and Rex Herron Chestnut Mount; and a host of nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

Pallbearers will be family and friends.

Baxter Chapel of Hooper-Huddleston & Horner Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements (931) 858-2134.

### **Alfred Hutchings**

b. 2 September 1927, DeKalb Co., TN – d. 16 October 1927, Putnam Co., TN, s/o **John Harrison Hutchings (1888-1958) & Sally Ann Spears (1897-1972).**

\*See John Harrison Hutchings buried in Spears Cemetery.

### **John Harrison Hutchings**

b. 24 May 1888, Silver Point, Putnam Co., TN – d. 19 August 1958, Putnam Co., TN, md on the 28<sup>th</sup> of May 1915, Putnam Co., TN to **Sally Ann (Spears) Hutchings**, b. 25 January 1897, White Co., TN – d. 27 December 1972, Putnam Co., TN, d/o **Jefferson Leftrick Spears (1872-1959) & Betty Ross Morris (1876-1934).** John Harrison Hutchings, s/o **Jasper Sylvester Hutchings (1858-1955) & Mary E. Medley (1865-1942).**

\*See Ora Mae (Hutchings) Nash

\*See Jefferson Leftrick Spears buried in Spears Cemetery.

(Source: Tennessee State Marriage record, Putnam Co., TN, pg. 263, #1046 – J. H. Hutchings married 20 May 1915, Putnam Co., TN to Sallie Spears).

**Letha Hutchings**

b. 12 March 1918, TN – d. 11 August 1925, TN, d/o **John Harrison Hutchings** (1888-1958) & **Sally Ann Spears** (1897-1972).

\*See John Harrison Hutchings buried in Spears Cemetery.

**Rosey Hutchings**

b. 1920 –d. 1920, infant d/o **John Harrison Hutchings** (1888-1958) & **Sally Ann Spears** (1897-1972).

\*See John Harrison Hutchings buried in Spears Cemetery.

**Andrew Jackson “Jack” Jones**

b. 3 February 1884, TN – d. 9 April 1953, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN, md **Dessie (Spears) Jones**, b. 11 July 1886, TN – d. 18 May 1956, Putnam Co., TN, d/o **Cantrell Spears** (1847-1886) & **Sarah Emeline Montgomery**. Cantrell Spears is buried in Perkins Cemetery, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN. Andrew Jackson “Jack” Jones, s/o **Lewis Jenkins “Jink” Jones** (1815-1900) & **Martha Ann Winfrey** (1848-1910).

\*See Jefferson Leftrick Spears buried in Spears Cemetery.

\*See Oscar “Pip” Jones buried in Spears Cemetery.

\*See William Travis Morris buried in Spears Cemetery.

**Oscar “Pip” Jones Obt.**

b. 19 November 1923, DeKalb Co., TN – d. 22 June 2000, Baxter, Putnam Co., TN, s/o **Andrew Jackson “Jack” Jones** (1884-1953) & **Dessie Spears** (1886-1956).

\*See Andrew Jackson “Jack” Jones buried in Spears Cemetery.

Oscar "Pip" Jones "died on Thurs., June 22, 2000, at Cookeville Regional Medical Center. He was born on Nov. 19, 1923, in DeKalb County to the late Jack and Dessie Spears Jones. Mr. Jones was a retired factory worker from Universal Plastics." from the obituary archives of Delbert R. Jones of Algood, TN.

When Oscar "Pip" Jones was born on 20 November 1923, in Tennessee, United States, his father, Andrew Jackson Jones, was 39 and his mother, Dessie Spears, was 37. He lived in Civil District 8, Claiborne, Tennessee, United States in 1930 and Civil District 8, DeKalb, Tennessee, United States in 1940. He died on 22 June 2000, in Baxter, Putnam, Tennessee, United States, at the age of 76, and was buried in Baxter, Putnam, Tennessee, United States.

**Calbert Calvin Julian**

b. 29 June 1926, Putnam Co., TN – d. 15 March 1979, Putnam Co., TN, (MM US Navy WWII), md **Betty Lou (Lafever) Eller**, b. 1 February 1930, Putnam Co., TN – d. 2 July

2014, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN d/o **Christopher Columbus Lafever** (1896-1980) & **Maggie Spears** (1903-1987). Calbert Calvin Julian, s/o **Cornelius Julian** (1880-1956) & **Alcie Maynard** (1886-1958), both buried in Tightfit Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN. Betty Lou (Lafever) Julian Eller also md on the 27<sup>th</sup> of June 1982, Putnam Co., TN to **William Howard Eller**.

\*See Betty Lou (Lafever) Julian Eller Obt.

**Betty Ann (Spears Lafever Obt.**

b. 19 July 1914, Putnam Co., TN – d. 18 March 2003, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN, md on the 5<sup>th</sup> of April 1934, DeKalb Co., TN to **Charlie C. Lafever**, b. 8 October 1910 – d. 10 January 1978, s/o **Luke Gillian Lafever** (1885-1980) & **America Alice Goff** (1891-1963), both buried in Boiling Springs Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN. Betty Ann (Spears) Lafever, d/o **John Cantrell Spears** (1895-1963) & **Lena May Lafever** (1905-1988).

\*See John Cantrell Spears Obt.

\*See Hugh Randall Williams Obt.

(**Source:** Tennessee State Marriage record, Putnam Co., TN, pg. 337 – Charlie Lafever married 5 April 1934, DeKalb Co., TN to Bettie Ann Spears).

**BAXTER , TN--** Services for Betty Ann Lafever, 88, of Baxter, Tennessee, will be held Friday, March 21, in the Ozion Free Will Baptist Church. Interment will be in the Spears Cemetery. Mrs. Lafever passed from life Tuesday, March 18, 2003, at Masters Health Care Center.

Daughter of the late John C. and Vallie Ford Spears, she was born on July 19, 1914, in Putnam County. Retired from Acme Boot Company, Mrs. Lafever was a member of the Ozion Free Will Baptist Church.

Her family includes two sons and daughters-in-law, Solon and Jean Spears of Waterford, Michigan, and Jim and Lillie Lafever of Putnam County, Tennessee; one daughter and son-in-law, Meirl and Hugh Williams of Putnam County; one brother, James Spears of Putnam County; two sisters, Lena Spears, and Jean Essex both of Putnam County; eight grandchildren, Larry and Wayne Spears, Jill Jenson, Lynn, Rodney and Dennis Lafever, Tracy Jones and Belinda Carter; 16 great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Charlie Lafever; two sisters, Rita Dyer and Audrey Goff; and two brothers, Sam and Albert Spears.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Ozion Free Will Baptist Church or Baxter Seminary Building Fund.

Her grandchildren will serve as pallbearers. Bros. Frank Davis and Tommy Benson will officiate at the services. Whitson Funeral Home, Cookeville, Tennessee.

Published in the Herald Citizen newspaper, Cookeville, TN.



**Christopher Columbus Lafever Obt.**

b. 9 September 1896, DeKalb Co., TN – d. 28 March 1980, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN, md on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December 1926, Putnam Co., TN to **Maggie (Spears) Lafever**, b. 5 January 1903 – d. 14 July 1987, d/o **Jefferson Leftrick Spears** (1872-1959) & **Betty Ross Morris** (1876-1934).

\*See Betty Lou (Lafever) Julian Eller Obt.

\*See Elva Jean Lafever buried in Spears Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN.

\*See Herbert R. Lafever buried in Spears Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN.

\*See Jefferson Leftrick Spears buried in Spears Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN.

(**Source:** Tennessee State Marriage record, Putnam Co., TN, pg. 382, #4569 - Columbus Lafever married 2 December 1926, Putnam Co., TN to Miss Maggie Spears)

**BAXTER** - Funeral services will be held this afternoon for Columbus Lafever, of Baxter Rt. 2, who died Friday, March 28, 1980, at Cookeville General Hospital. Mr. Lafever was 83.

Services will be held at 2 p.m. in the chapel of Dyer Funeral Home, Cookeville, and burial will follow in Spears Cemetery, with Bro. Bob Pharris officiating.

Mr. Lafever was born in DeKalb County, Tenn., son of Asher and Canzada Elrod Lafever.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Maggie Spears Lafever; four daughters, Miss Elva Jean Lafever; Mrs. Robert Mahan, Mrs. Clarence Herron and Mrs. Betty Julian; two sons, Harold and Lonnie Lafever; a brother, Gilliam Lafever; and six grandchildren.

Active pallbearers will be Beecher Lafever, Hershel Lafever, Jim Lafever, Bobby Joe Spears, Ernie Julian and Randall Herron.

**Elva Jean Lafever**

b. 23 July 1936, TN – d. 7 November 2008, Putnam Co., TN, d/o **Christopher Columbus Lafever** (1896-1980) & **Maggie Spears** (1903-1987).

\*See Christopher Columbus Lafever Obt.

**Herbert Roosevelt Lafever**

b. 22 September 1928, Putnam Co., TN – d. 9 October 1928, Putnam Co., TN, s/o **Christopher Columbus Lafever** (1896-1980) & **Maggie Spears** (1903-1987).

\*See Christopher Columbus Lafever Obt.

**Howard Leon Morris**

b. 14 November 1927, Omaha, NB – d. 29 January 2007, (S1 US Navy WWII), md on the 11<sup>th</sup> of August 1951, DeKalb Co., IN to **Shirley (A La Casse) Morris**. Howard Leon Morris, s/o **William Travis Morris** (1898-1964) & **Martha Ada Goff** (1904-1985).

\*See William Travis Morris buried in Spears Cemetery.

US WWII Draft Cards Young Men (1940-1947)

**Name:** Howard Leon Morris  
**Race:** White  
**Age:** 19  
**Birth Date:** 1 Nov 1926  
**Birth Place:** Omaha, Nebraska  
**Residence Place:** Silver Point, Putnam, Tennessee  
**Registration Date:** 28 Dec 1945  
**Registration Place:** Cookeville, Putnam, Tennessee  
**Employer:** Just Discharged  
**Height:** 5" 10"  
**Weight:** 137  
**Complexion:** Light  
**Hair Color:** Brown  
**Eye Color:** Brown  
**Next of Kin:** Mr L. B. Morris

US WWII Navy Muster Rolls (19138-1949)

**Name:** Howard Leon Morris  
**Ship, Station or Activity:** Concord  
**Ship Number or Designation:** CL-10  
**Muster Date:** 23 Apr 1944

**William Travis Morris**

b. 22 July 1898, TN – d. 16 October 1964, Nashville, Davidson Co., TN, (Tennessee 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. US Army WWI & WWII), md on the 4<sup>th</sup> of February 1920, Putnam Co., TN to **Martha Ada (Goff) Morris Jones**, b. 23 March 1904, TN – d. 1 October 1985, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN, d/o **James Madison Goff** (1857-1938) & **Mary Elizabeth “Betty” Bozarth** (1871-1956), all buried in Goff Cemetery, DeKalb Co., TN. **Martha Ada (Goff) Morris Jones** also md on the 19<sup>th</sup> of January 1951, Putnam Co., TN to **Solon Lee Jones** ((1906-1985), s/o **Andrew Jackson “Jack” Jones** (1884-1953) & **Dessie Spears** (1886-1956). Solon Lee Jones is buried in Goff Cemetery, DeKalb Co., TN.

\*See Andrew Jackson “Jack” Jones buried in Spears Cemetery.

\*See Howard Leon Morris buried in Spears Cemetery.

(**Source:** Tennessee State Marriage record, Putnam Co., TN, pg. 394, #4317 – William T. Morris married 4 February 1920, Putnam Co., TN to Ada Goff).

(**Source:** Tennessee State Marriage record, Putnam Co., TN, pg. 313 – Solon Lee Jones married 19 January 1951, Putnam Co., TN, age 44, b. 4 May 1906, address: Rt. 2, Baxter, Putnam Co., TN to Ada Goff Leathers, age 46, b. 23 March 1904, address: Rt. 2, Baxter, Putnam Co., TN. Name of parent, guardian or next of kin of female: Jim Goff, deceased,

father & Betty Goff, mother, Rt. 2, Baxter, Putnam Co., TN. Name of parent, guardian or next of kin of male: Jack Jones, Rt. 2, Baxter, Putnam Co., TN).

**Ora Mae (Hutchings) Nash**

b. 4 May 1935 – d. 3 June 1975, md **Rev. Leonard Doyle Nash**, b. 8 April 1934, Baxter, Putnam Co., TN – d. 15 March 2002, Chapel Hill, Marshall Co., TN, s/o **Charlie Bonell Nash** (1901-1963) & **Dollie Allison** (1902-1986), both buried in Nash Cemetery, Baxter, Putnam Co., TN. Rev. Leonard Doyle Nash is buried in Swanson Cemetery, Chapel Hill, Marshall Co., TN. Rev. Leonard Doyle Nash also md **Eva Mae (Sandlin) Nash** (no issue). Leonard Doyle Nash married (1st) Ora Mae Hutchings. They had 2 sons; Dwight Nash of Nashville, TN and Mark Nash of Kingsport, TN. Ora Mae (Hutchings) Nash, d/o **John Harrison Hutchings** (1888-1958) & **Sally Ann Spears** (1897-1972).

\*See John Harrison Hutchings buried in Spears Cemetery.

**Albert Spears**

b. 3 March 1923 – d. 8 August 1926.

**Essie (Roberts) Herd Spears Obt.**

b. 30 May 1914, Putnam Co., TN – d. 7 June 2007, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN, md on the 24<sup>th</sup> of April 1935, DeKalb Co., TN to **Lemuel “Lem” Tyler Spears**, b. 1 July 1913, Putnam Co., TN – d. 5 March 1964, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN, s/o **Jefferson Leftrick Spears** (1872-1959) & **Betty Ross Morris** (1876-1934). Essie (Roberts) Spears Herd also md **Noby Herd**, (1915-2002), s/o **Charles Preston Herd** (1887-1916) & **Eroshie L. Martin** (1890-1971). Noby Herd is buried in Rose Hills Memorial Park, Whittier, Los Angeles Co., CA. Essie (Roberts) Spears, d/o **Wert Bee Roberts** (1894-1930) & **Patty Elvira “Patsy” Herron** (1897-1988), both buried in Dobbs Cemetery, Baxter, Putnam Co., TN.

\*See Jefferson Leftrick Spears Obt.

(Source: Tennessee State Marriage record, DeKalb Co., TN, pg. 113 – Lem Spears married 24 April 1935, DeKalb Co., TN to Essie Roberts).

**BAXTER** -- Funeral services for Essie Spears Herd, 93, of the Boma Community of Putnam County will be held today, Sunday, June 10, at 3 p.m. at the Baxter chapel of Hooper-Huddleston & Horner Funeral Home.

Burial will be in Spears Cemetery.

Family will receive friends Sunday after 11 a.m. at the funeral home.

Mrs. Herd died Friday, June 8, 2007, at Cookeville Regional Medical Center.

She was born May 30, 1914, in Putnam County to the late Wirt and Patsy Herron Roberts.

Mrs. Herd was a homemaker and member of Lillys Chapel Free Will Baptist Church.

Her family includes her daughter and son-in-law, Vella Morene and Allen Gibbs of Gordonsville; her son, Jerry Spears of Silver Point; her daughter-in-law, Mildred Spears of Silver Point; three sisters, Bessie Harris, Ethel Ashburn and Ravanell Rice, all of Baxter; seven grandchildren, Sherry Gibbs of Gordonsville, Sheena McCaleb of Westmoreland, Karen Medley of Silver Point, Kim Dyer of Defeated Creek, Sandy Clark of St. Louis, Mo., Kris Gibbs of Hickman and Brandon Spears of Baxter and nine great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents, Mrs. Herd was preceded in death by her first husband, Lemuel Spears; her second husband, Noby Herd; her son, J.T. Spears and her brother, Ralph Roberts.

Pallbearers will be Ladell and Justin Medley, Brandon Spears, Kris Gibbs, Benton Dyer and Seth McCaleb.

Rev. Tim McCaleb will officiate the services.

Herald Citizen Cookeville Putnam Co., TN: 10 June 2007

**Lena Ila Spears**

b. 5 June 1918 – d. 6 January 2010, d/o **John Cantrell Spears** (1895-1963) & **Lena May Lafever** (1905-1988).

**Linnie Spears**

b. 14 July 1913 – d. 15 July 1913.

**James Reece Spears Obt.**

b. 12 April 1934, DeKalb Co., TN – d. 20 November 2015, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN, md on the 4<sup>th</sup> of September 1969, Putnam Co., TN to **Theresa (Judd) Spears**, b. 1 May 1947. James Reece Spears, s/o **John Cantrell Spears** (1895-1963) & **Lena May Lafever** (1905-1988). Marriage date on tombstone: 4 September 1969.

\*See John Cantrell Spears Obt.

(**Source:** Tennessee State Marriage record, Putnam Co., TN, pg. 199 – James Reece Spears married 4 September 1968 (*sic*), Putnam Co., TN, age 34, b. 12 April 1934, address: 2427 W. Broad, Cookeville, TN to Theresa Ann Judd, age 21, b. 1 May 1947, address: Rt. 3, Cookeville, TN. Name of parent, guardian or next of kin of female: Mr. & Mrs. ? Judd, parents, Rt. 3, Cookeville, TN).

Services for James Reece Spears, age 81 of Cookeville, Tennessee will be held Sunday, November 22 from the Cookeville Chapel of Hooper-Huddleston & Horner Funeral Home. Interment will follow in Spears Cemetery. Bro. Johnny Fox will officiate.

Mr. Spears passed from life on Friday November 20, 2015 at Bethesda Health Care Center.

He was born in DeKalb County, Tennessee on April 12, 1934 to the late John Cantrell Spears and Lena May Lafever Spears.

Mr. Spears was a graduate of Baxter Seminary. He retired from McCord's working as a Set-up Operator with 36 years of service. A member of the Zion Church of Christ, he will be remembered as a good man with a quiet nature and great sense of humor. He was a devoted father, and loving husband who enjoyed providing for his family.

He was also preceded in death by a brother, Sam Spears, four of his sisters, Rita Dyer, Audrey Goff, Lena Spears and Betty Ann Lafever.

He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Theresa Judd Spears (whom he married September 4, 1967 at Smyrna Church of Christ); a son and daughter-in-law, Kevin Reece and Donna Spears; one sister, Roena 'Jean' Essex; two grandchildren, Kevonna and James Spears; two step-grandchildren, Gavin and Jerrica Taylor and one step great grandchild, Sophia Orosco; several nieces and nephews.

#### **Jefferson Leftrick Spears**

b. 1 October 1872, White Co., TN – d. 21 February 1959, Putnam Co., TN, md on the 8<sup>th</sup> of March 1894, Putnam Co., TN to **Betty Ross (Morris) Spears**, b. 23 September 1876, Putnam Co., TN – d. 14 September 1934, Putnam Co., TN, d/o **John Morris** (1851-1914) & **Sally Bennett** (1853-1891), both buried in Morris Cemetery, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN. Jefferson Leftrick Spears also md **Mary Racheal (Risby) Spears**, b. 2 November 1899 – d. 5 December 1983, d/o **Owen Pickney Rigsby** (1870-1942) & **Tennessee Lafever** (1863-1946). Jefferson Leftrick Spears, s/o **Cantrell Spears** (1847-1886) & **Sarah Emeline Montgomery**. Cantrell Spears is buried in Perkins Cemetery, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN.

\*See John Harrison Hutchings buried in Spears Cemetery.

\*See Essie (Roberts) Spears Herd Obt.

(**Source:** Tennessee State Marriage record, Putnam Co., TN, pg. 393 – Jefferson (J.L.) Spears married 8 March 1894, Putnam Co., TN to Bettie R. Morris).

#### **John Cantrell Spears Obt.**

b. 27 May 1895, Putnam Co., TN – d. 18 March 1963, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN, md on the 12<sup>th</sup> of September 1930, Putnam Co., TN to **Lena May (Lafever) Spears**, b. 14 July 1905, TN – d. 21 March 1988, d/o **John William Lafever** (1880-1955) & **Laura Lauverna Crank** (1874-1921). John Cantrell Spears, s/o **Jefferson Leftrick Spears** (1872-1959) & **Betty Ross Morris** (1876-1934). **John Cantrell Spears** also md **Vallie (Ford) Spears**, b. 16 January 1895 – d. 20 September 1924, d/o **Samuel Ford** & **Martha Maynard**. John William Lafever is buried in Joseph Hickey Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN.

\*See Audrey Helen (Spears) Goff buried in Spears Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN.

\*See Laura Lauverna (Crank) Lafever buried in Spears Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN.

\*See James Reece Spears Obt.

\*See Jefferson Leftrick Spears Obt.

\*See Lena Ila Spears buried in Spears Cemetery.

(**Source:** Tennessee State Marriage record, Putnam Co., TN, pg. 212 – J. C. Spears married 12 September 1930, Putnam Co., TN, age 35, address: Rt. 2, Silver Point, Putnam Co., TN to Lena Spears, age 25, address: Rt. 2 Silver Point, Putnam Co., TN. Name of parent, guardian or next of kin of female: John Lafever, Rt. 4 Silver Point, Putnam Co., TN).

Funeral services for John Cantrell Spears, 67, were held today at the Ozion Baptist church, of which he was a member. Rev Addison McCaleb officiated, and burial was in Spears Cemetery.

Mr. Spears death occurred Monday at Cookeville General Hospital following an extended illness. He was a retired farmer and resident of Baxter Rt 2. A native of Putnam County, the son of Jeff Leftwich and Betty Morris Spears.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Lena Spears; two sons, James of Baxter Rt 2 and Sam Spears, Chattanooga; five daughters, Mrs. Betty Ann Lafever, Miss Lena Spears, Baxter Rt 2; Mrs. Audrey Goff, Mrs. Rita Dyer, Cookeville; two sisters, Mrs. Sally Hutchins, Mrs. Maggie Lafever of Baxter; three brothers, Roosevelt, Sparta; General, Baxter Rt 2; and Lemuel of Boma.

Whitson Funeral Home in charge.

Cookeville Citizen, TN: 19 March 1963

**Nancy Carolyn (Nash) Spears Obt.**

b. 2 October 1944, Putnam Co., TN – d. 24 November 2020, Putnam Co., TN, md on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of July 1965, Jackson Co., TN to **Bobby Joe Spears**, b. 14 December 1938 – d. 3 March 1996. Nancy Carolyn (Nash) Spears, d/o **Lillard Nash** (1910-1995) & **Nancy Odell Hickey** (1910-1994), both buried in Nash Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN.

(**Source:** Tennessee State Marriage record, Jackson Co., TN, pg. 116, #3409 – Bobby Joe Spears married 2 July 1965, Jackson Co., TN, age 26, address; Baxter, Putnam Co., TN to Nancy Carolyn Nash, age 20, address: Baxter, Putnam Co., TN. Name of parent, guardian or next of kin of female: Mr. & Mrs. Lillard Nash, parents, Baxter, Putnam Co., TN. Name of parent, guardian or next of kin of male: Lena Spears, mother, Baxter, Putnam Co., TN).

Nancy Carolyn Spears, age 76, passed away Tuesday, November 24, 2020. Nancy was born October 2, 1944 in Putnam County, Tennessee to Lillard and Odell (Hickey) Nash. She loved spending time with family and enjoyed working with kids at Baxter Elementary School. Nancy was preceded in death by her husband Bobby Joe Spears, her mother Odell (Hickey) and father Lillard Nash, sisters Carlis (Nash) and Oscar Jones, sister, Carlisa Nash, and brother William (Pearl) Nash.

She is survived by her brothers Verble (Dorothy) Nash, Ray (Linda) Nash, and several nieces and nephews. Graveside service will be held at Saturday, November 28, 2020 at Spears Cemetery in Baxter.

Whitson Funeral Home, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN.

**Tyrell Joshua Thornton**

b. 11 September 2003 – d. 23 November 2003.

**Hugh Randall Williams Obt.**

b. 23 June 1940, Silver Point, Putnam Co., TN – d. 22 January 2018, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN, md on the 21<sup>st</sup> of April 1961, Putnam Co., TN to **Lilly Meriel “Meirl” (Lafever) Williams**, b. 9 September 1941, d/o **Charlie C. Lafever** (1910-1978) & **Betty Ann Spears** (1914-2003). Hugh Randall Williams, s/o **Lawson Williams** (1910-1989) & **Adelle Williams** (1910-2002), both buried in Goff Cemetery, DeKalb Co., TN.

\*See Betty Ann (Spears) Lafever Obt.

(**Source:** Tennessee State Marriage record, Putnam Co., TN, pg. 129 – Hugh Randal Williams married 21 April 1961, Putnam Co., TN, age 20, b. 23 June 1940, address: Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN to Lilly Meriel Lafever, age 19, b. 9 September 1941, address: Baxter, Putnam Co., TN. Name of parent, guardian or next of kin of female: Charlie Lafever, Baxter, Putnam Co., TN).

Funeral services for Mr. Hugh Randall Williams, age 77, of the Austin Bottom Community, will be at 1 p.m. Thursday, January 25 at Dyer Funeral Home with Bro. Johnny Fox officiating. Interment will follow at Spears Cemetery in Putnam County.

The family will receive friends Thursday from 10 a.m. until service time at the funeral home.

Hugh passed away Monday January 22, 2018 at NHC of Cookeville.

He was born June 23, 1940 in Silver Point, TN to the late Lawson H. and Adele Maxwell Williams.

He served in the TN National Guard from 1957 to 1965. Hugh was an avid golfer and sports fan. He especially enjoyed watching his grandson play basketball and baseball for Upperman High School and Maryville College.

He retired from public service in 1995 after working for the US Postal Service, Putnam County Tax Assessor's and Trustee's office. He was a lifelong farmer.

He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Lilly Meirl Lafever Williams, who he married on April 21, 1961; daughter and son-in-law, Tracy and Joey Jones of Baxter; grandchildren, Alaina Jones and Joe Jones; great-granddaughter, Georgia Quinn Jones; sister and brother-in-law, Amy and Robert (Andy) Anderson of Sparta, brother-in-law and sister-in-

law, Jim and Lillie Lafever of Baxter; and several nieces, nephews, and golfing buddies.

The family would like to extend their appreciation to the staff at NHC of Cookeville for the care rendered to Hugh and his family.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by three brothers, Larry Dale Williams, Roger (Podge) Williams, and Douglas Lanier Williams.

Pallbearers will be friends and family.

Dyer Funeral Home in charge.

\*Read about the people & places in Putnam Co., TN & surrounding areas at:  
<http://www.ajlambert.com>