

**Estella Ray Obt.**

b. 10 October 1914, Putnam Co., TN – d. 22 July 2015, Sylvania, OH, d/o **Brice Ray**, b. 27 October 1877 – d. 18 May 1958 & **Mattie C. Officer**, b. 5 May 1878 – d. 6 April 1948, both buried in Lyles Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN. Estella Ray is buried in Lyles Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN.

**COOKEVILLE** — Funeral services for Estella Ray, age 100 of Toledo, Ohio, and formerly of Algood, will be held on Sunday, August 2 at 4 p.m., from the Cookeville Chapel of Hooper-Huddleston & Horner Funeral Home.



Mrs. Ray's family will receive friends Sunday from 3 p.m. until service time at the funeral home.

Estella Christine Ray, known as “Aunt Stella,” was born in Putnam County, Tenn., on October 10, 1914. She attended Officers Chapel United Methodist Church (now known as

Officers Chapel Community Church). She was also a member of the Algood Senior Community Center.

A graduate of Pearl High School in Nashville, Aunt Stella eventually moved to Detroit to seek employment. She returned to Algood in 1946 and was a loving and devoted care giver for her mother, father, brother, her aunt Emma (Ray) Snodgrass, “Aunt Emma” who passed at age 106 and was known as Putnam County’s oldest citizen.

**Note:** Emma (Ray) Snodgrass, b. 14 October 1871 – d. 6 November 1977, buried in Lyles Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN.

After her health began to fail in 2008, she moved to Toledo, Ohio, where she resided with her niece, Helen, until her health required her to be moved to the Comfort Care facility in Sylvania, Ohio. “Aunt Stella” passed away on Wednesday, July 22, 2015, in Sylvania at the age of 100.

As the strong matriarch of the family, many who searched for history and truth about life in Middle Tennessee sought out “Aunt Stella.” She loved gardening, canning and cooking and shared these gifts with others. Those who knew her could find a meal on her stove and a seat at her table. Her doors were always open.

Aunt Stella was preceded in death by her mother Mattie Mercer-Officer Ray, father Brice Little Ray, siblings Lonnie Ray, Blanche Ray (Sumner), Samuel J. Ray, Thurmond Ray, and A.B. Ray.

Aunt Stella is survived by two nephews and four nieces: Charles (Melinda) Sumner, Samuel J. (Shirley) Ray, Mattie (Joe) Daniels, Ellen B. (Hezekiah) Swann, Helen C. (James) Cooks, and Beatrice L. (Leon) Quarles; a number of great nieces and nephews: Teresa (Sumner); Samuel R., Rodney, Terell (Ray); Donald, Andre (Ballard); Thomas,

Margaret (Sumner); Hezekiah E., Delisa, Angela, Derrick, Renee (Swann); Michielle, Michael, Myron, Melvin, Hope (Cooks); Antoine, Dezerai (Quarles) and dozens of great, great nieces and nephews.

She is also survived by a host of friends and extended family in the Algood and Cookeville area, particularly her loving cousin Jack Ray and good friend Jeanete Taulbee.

Hooper-Huddleston & Horner Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Herald-Citizen, Cookeville, TN: 1 August 2015.

\*See more about the people of Putnam Co., TN & surrounding areas at:

<http://www.ajlambert.com>