

Vaden Ditty Obt.

Funeral services for **Vaden T. Ditty**, 40, a familiar face at most sports events in Putnam County and who had the distinction of being the largest man in this section of the state, were conducted Thursday morning at the Baxter Methodist Church by Dr. Harry L. Upperman and the Rev. G. C. McIlwain.

Mr. Ditty, an electrical and plumbing contractor, was found dead at this home Wednesday. He had been ill only a short time having been released from a Nashville hospital a few days before his death.

Mr. Ditty recently told some of his friends that he weighed 385 pounds.

Burial was in City Cemetery, Cookeville.

Mr. Ditty was a member of the Methodist Church and he was a native of Putnam County.

Survivors include **a sister, Mrs. Velda Duke** of Nashville and **a brother Arrington Ditty**, Baxter.

Note: Vaden T. Ditty, s/o Sam Ditty & Florilla Jared, d/o William James Jared & Elizabeth "Betty" Huddleston. His siblings are: Velda Ditty md Elois Eugene Duke Duke and Arrington Jared md Mattie Mae King.

Herald Newspaper, Cookeville, TN: Wednesday, 24 December 1947, front page.

Florilla (Jared) Ditty

b. 17 July 1867, TN – d. 4 July 1947, d/o William James Jared & Elizabeth "Betty" Frances Huddleston. William James Jared, s/o Samuel Raulston Jared & Mary Sophroni "Susan" Scruggs. Elizabeth "Betty" Frances Huddleston, d/o Isaac Alexander Huddleston & Judith (Nicholas/Nichols) Wallace. She married Samuel "Sam" Apple Ditty. Children: Velda Ditty md Elois Eugene Duke; Arrington Jared md Mattie Mae King and Vaden Ditty never married. Velda (Diity) Duke, b. 15 February 1905 – d. 2 March 1934 buried in Cookeville City Cemetery.

Samuel "Sam" Apple Ditty

b. 2 October 1864 – d. 28 March 1937 – md Florilla Jared, d/o William James Jared & Elizabeth "Betty" Frances Huddleston.

Sam Frank Ditty Duke Obt.

COOKEVILLE -- Graveside services for **Sam Frank Ditty Duke**, 94, of Durham, N.C., and formerly of Wilmington, N.C., will be held Friday, March 2, at 11 a.m. at Cookeville Cemetery.

Mr. Duke died Wednesday, Feb. 27, 2007, following several years of declining health.

He was born Nov. 30, 1912, in Putnam County to the late **Velda Ditty and Elois Eugene Duke**.

Mr. Duke attended Tennessee Technological University, graduated from the University of Tennessee with a B.S. in chemistry and completed graduate studies in mathematics at New York University and meteorology at the University of Miami. **Mr. Duke was a meteorologist with the U.S. Weather Service for 32 years.** He retired in 1972 as the "weatherman" in Wilmington. Mr. Duke was a member of Temple Baptist Church in Wilmington, the American Meteorological Society and the National Association of Retired Federal Employees.

His family includes his loving and devoted wife, Thelma Felts Duke, whom he married March 18, 1937; a daughter and son-in-law, Phyllis D. and Marshall Clements of Durham; a son and daughter-in-law, Sam Franklin and Cony Duke of Ellenwood, Ga.; three grandchildren, Tammy D. Sanders and husband Daryl, Todd A. Duke and wife Elizabeth and Theron Erickson; and two great-grandchildren, Heath and Brady Sanders.

In addition to his parents, Mr. Duke was preceded in death by his son, Major Frederick Stephen Duke; a sister, Elizabeth Duke Canavan; and two brothers, Kermit and Eugene Duke.

Memorial donations may be made to Temple Baptist Church, 1801 Market St., Wilmington, NC 28403 or to one's favorite charity.

Rev. Melvin D. Felts will officiate the services.

Clements Funeral Service in Durham and Hooper-Huddleston & Horner in Cookeville are in charge of arrangements.

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Veleda (Ditty) Duke Obt.

b. 15 February 1905 – d. 2 March 1934, d/o Samuel Apple “Sam” Ditty & Florilla Jared. She md Elois Eugene Duke. *See Sam Frank Ditty Duke Obt.

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