

DORIS SHERRILL (WILLIAMS) BUSH ESSLER OBT.

SPARTA -- Funeral services for Doris Sherrill Williams Bush Essler, 78, of Sparta, will be held Saturday, July 19, at 10 a.m. at Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Cookeville.



Burial will be in Browns Mill Cemetery.

Pictured left: Doris Sherrill (Williams) Bush Essler, Highlander yearbook, 1946 senior, Baxter Seminary, Baxter, Putnam Co.,TN. "A chip off the old block, a big chip."

Family will receive friends Friday, July 18, from 5-8 p.m. from the Cookeville chapel of Hooper-Huddleston and Horner Funeral Home and again Saturday, July 19, from 9 a.m. until time of services at the church.

Mrs. Essler died Wednesday, July 16, 2008, in Cookeville Regional Medical Center after a brief illness.

She was born Sept. 14, 1929, in Milwaukee to the late Charles Lee and Violet Doris Caruthers Williams.

Mrs. Essler was a lifelong member of Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

She graduated from Baxter Seminary in 1946 and was a career educator, receiving her degree of Bachelor of of Science in English in 1951 from Tennessee Polytechnic Institute in Cookeville and later in 1971 her degree of Master of Science in English from Tennessee Technological University.

For most of the first half of her career she taught high school English in Florida and Georgia. In 1963, she became the first white teacher to teach in a black high school in the state of Florida at Dillard High School in Ft. Lauderdale.

She returned to the Putnam County area in 1973 and continued her career in education. In 1987 she received her Doctorate in Educational Science from the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, and at the time of her retirement in 1997, was the Director of Special Education for Gifted Students in Putnam County.

She was a member of the Alpha Delta Kappa Teacher's Sorority and of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society.

Her family includes two sons and a daughter-in-law, Bill and Cathy Bush of Skaneateles, N.Y., and Charlie Bush of Bookeville; a sister and brother-in-law, Alice and Tommy Douberley of Sebastian, Fla.; two grandchildren, Elizabeth and David Bush; an aunt, Hallene Caruthers of Spring City; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, Mrs. Essler was preceded in death by her first husband, Carlos Butler Bush; her second husband, Warren Orvel Essler; a brother, James Stephen Williams; three uncles, Claude, Hugh and Clifford Caruthers; and two maternal grandparents, Stephen Burton and Alice Sherrel Caruthers.

Memorial donations may be made to the Warren and Doris Bush-Essler Scholarship Fund for students who desire to prepare to teach academically gifted students at Tennessee Technological University, P.O. Box 5047, Cookeville, TN 38505.

Pallbearers will be family and friends.

Dr. Charles McCaskey will officiate the services.

Online condolences may be sent to www.hhhfunerals.com.

Thursday, Jul 17, 2008: Herald Citizen newspaper, Cookeville, TN

<http://www.ajlambert.com>