

HANNAH LAURA (HUGHES) HALL OBT.



COOKEVILLE -- Funeral services for **Hannah Laura Hall**, 95, of Baxter, will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 13, from the chapel of Crest Lawn Funeral Home. Burial will be in Crest Lawn Memorial Cemetery.

The family will receive friends from 1-4 p.m. and from 6-9 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 12, at the funeral home.

Mrs. Hall died Wednesday, Nov. 9, 2005, in Cookeville Regional Medical Center.

She was born Dec. 19, 1909, in Baxter to the late Phylander D. Hughes and Zulema C. McDonald Hughes.

Mrs. Hall attended school in Baxter, at the grammar school and then Baxter Seminary. She was a retired teacher of 44 years with the Putnam County School System. When she began her teaching career, she had to stand on a step stool to write at her chalkboard because she was only 4'11" tall. During this time, she attended U.T. Knoxville, Murfreesboro, and earned her degree from Tennessee Polytechnic Institute.

She taught in the Putnam County system and then switched to the WPA adult education program, serving as a supervisor for the WPA in the five-county area of Upper Cumberland. After these years, she returned to Putnam County and taught until 1975. **She was a member of the Tennessee Teachers Hall of Fame** and worked with the local drama group, where she directed and appeared in several productions before the troupe disbanded.

Mrs. Hall's teaching extended also to the church; she had taught Sunday school for the last 60 years. She also participated in various civic clubs, including Phi Kappa Phi, Alpha Delta Kappa, Kappa Delta Phi, International Thespian Society, Polyhumnian Literary Society, AAUW and Community Theater, where she was also a member of the board of directors.

In recent years, Mrs. Hall worked with PTA/PTO, **DAR Old Walton Road Chapter**, Retired Teachers Association, Retired Senior Volunteer Program, Baxter Senior Citizens (where she served on the board of directors), and the volunteer physical education program at Baxter and Boma Senior Citizens groups and The Democratic National Committee. She was currently working as a registrar in the Eighth District Election Commission of Putnam County. She taught Jazzercise at the age of 86 to the seniors at Boma.

Some of her other community services included story telling at Baxter Elementary School and Upperman High School, visiting and singing at nursing homes weekly, serving on the Bicentennial Quilt Committee and helping to distribute "food source" with the Senior Citizens. She directed, acted in and served on boards of directors for a span of 60 years.

Her honors include lifetime membership in PTA, Volunteer Service recognition from Bart Gordon, service recognition from the Office of Prize Administration, Gov. Prentice Cooper recognition for Patriotic Service, Retired Seniors Volunteer Program recognition, International Thespian Society recognition, Baxter Elementary School Volunteer Program recognition, awards for services in Vacation Bible School, Ms. Senior Putnam County Pageant (at age 84), First Runner Up and Miss Congeniality, 42nd District Advisory Council recognition from Dwight Henry and Certificate of Appreciation - Democratic National Committee - Bill Clinton.

Her family includes two daughters and sons-in-law, Laura H. and Charles Jackson of Baxter and Shelia F. and Steve Wakefield of Cookeville; **a sister, Jimmie E. Jaquess of Cookeville**; a grandson and

granddaughter-in-law, Chris H. and Lori Wakefield of Cookeville; two granddaughters and grandsons-in-law, Laura J. and Chris Bell of Cookeville and Julie W. and Jim Harcum of Cookeville; a grandson, Frank Jackson of Nashville; a great-grandson, Hunter Harcum of Cookeville; a great-granddaughter, Avery K. Wakefield of Cookeville; and a great-grandson, Taylor Trahan of Cookeville.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of more than 42 years, Frank Hall and a brother, Davis Hughes.

Honorary pallbearers will be the Old Walton Road Chapter of DAR, Putnam County Retired Teachers Association and Baxter Senior Citizens.

For more information on Mrs. Hall, visit her Web site at www.mem.com.

Gary Hampton and Glen McDoniel will officiate the services.

*(*See Jimmie Enus (Hughes) Jaquess Obt., Frazier Jaquess Obt. and Jessie (McDonald) Wilkins Obt.)*

Published November 11, 2005 10:35 AM CST: Herald Citizen Newspaper, Cookeville, TN

Source: Heritage of Putnam County Tennessee – 2008 by Putnam County Heritage Book Committee and County Heritage Inc.

Pg. 267: **HANNAH LAURA HUGHES HALL** (#724) – Hannah Laura Hughes Hall was born December 9, 1909 in Baxter to Phylander D. Hughes and Zulema C. McDonald; she died November 9, 2005 in Cookeville. She was known as “Miss Hannah” to the hundreds of students she taught in her 44 years with the Putnam County School System. She attended school at Baxter Grammar School and Baxter Seminary. When she began her teaching career, she had to stand on a step stool to write at her chalk board because she was only 4’11” tall. During this time, she attended UT Knoxville, Murfreesboro, and earned her degree from Tennessee Polytechnic Institute. She retired from classroom teaching in 1975, but she didn’t retire from school activities. She regularly came to Baxter Elementary for storytelling to the lower grades. My first grad class always looked forward to Miss Hannah’s visit. If her storytelling extended into recess time, that was fine with the children. They wanted her to continue. Miss Hannah taught Sunday school for 60 years. She was a member of the Tennessee Teachers Hall of Fame, the Old Walton Road Chapter of the DAR, the Retired Teachers’ Association, and the Baxter Senior Citizens. She taught jazzercise at the age of 86 to the seniors at Boma. Miss Hannah married the late Frank Hall; they have two daughters, Laura Hall Jackson and Shelia Hall Wakefield. As a personal note, Miss Hannah was my first grade teacher when I started school in 1953. I also had Miss Hannah in the second grade, as she had a split first and second. I was fortunate to teach with her for three years before her retirement. *Story by: Carol Littrell Bradford, 4548, Old Sparta Rd., Cookeville, TN 38506.*

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