



Dorothy Franklin

August 23, 2009

Dorothy Franklin, born to the union of the late John Thomas and Pearl (Watkins) Kidwell, was born September 14, 1921 in Hamburg, Arkansas.

At the age of 13, Dorothy accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as her Savior and was baptized at the Wilmot Baptist Church in Wilmot, Arkansas.

Dorothy, or Dot as she was known to her family and friends, grew up in Wilmot where she graduated from high school. During a football game, Dot met the love of her life, Willie Lee “Dub” Franklin.

According to Dot, Dub “joined the service so they’d have enough money to get married on”, so on February 1, 1941, Dot and Dub were united in marriage in Wilmot. They shared many wonderful years of marriage together and were blessed with two sons: Willie Lee and John Edward.

Due to Dub being in the military, their family lived several different places. They were in Germany, Alaska, Oklahoma, but they lived the longest at Fort Leonard Wood. They moved to Fort Leonard Wood in 1954 and then came back in 1958. Dot raised her family here in the Waynesville area and both of her sons graduated from Waynesville High School.

While Dub was stationed in Ft. Sill, Oklahoma, Dot went back to school and

attended Business College in Lawton, Oklahoma. After moving back to the Waynesville area, she began working for the Waynesville School District and was employed there for 15 years.

Dot enjoyed raising her boys and being able to be home with them. In her spare time, she was a very talented seamstress and made most of the boys' clothing along with several Raggedy Ann and Andy dolls. She was a Crusade Chairman for Pulaski County for the American Cancer Society for several years and also taught the youth at church when she was younger. She was a faithful member of Westside Baptist Church and was always there as long as she was able.

Dot went home to be with her Lord Sunday, August 23, 2009 at her home at the age of 87 years, 11 months and 9 days. She will be sadly missed, but fondly remembered by all those that knew and loved her.

Dot leaves to cherish her memory two sons: Willie Lee Franklin, Jr. (Diane) of Manchester, and John Edward Franklin of Norman, Oklahoma; one sister: Vernice Bean of Ukiah, California; four grandchildren: Wendy Lynn Bailey, Jayme Franklin, Todd Franklin and Kristal Holleyman; three great grandchildren: Spencer Holleyman, Evan Bailey and Thomas Franklin; several nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

In addition to her parents, Dot was preceded in death by her husband, two brothers: John Thomas and Mark Kidwell; and four sisters: Myrtle Lawrence, Evelyn Wolfe, Hazel Hough and Florrie Hough.

Funeral services were held 10:00 A.M. Wednesday, August 26, 2009 in Memorial Chapels and Crematory with Rev. Lindell Shelden and Rev. John Shaw officiating. A poem written by Andrew Xavier Miles McBean, a family friend, was read by Rev. John Shaw. Becky Lercher sang "In the Garden" and

“How Great Thou Art”. Dorothy’s granddaughter, Wendy Bailey sang “Where Joy and Sorrow Meet”. Serving as escorts were Todd Franklin, Kenny Foster, Marvin Long, Dwight Hensley, Pat Howe and Jim Bales.

Burial followed in Sunset Memorial Estates Cemetery. Services were under the direction of Memorial Chapels and Crematory.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Westside Baptist Church and left at Memorial Chapels and Crematory.

Tribute Wall



“ *Memorial Chapels and Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Dorothy Franklin*



Memorial Chapels and Crematory - August 23, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dorothy Franklin*

January 28, 2023 at 06:53 AM



“ *Dearest John and Spike*

Our families have always seemed to have to go through all of life's challenges hand in hand. The memories of our parents will endure throughout our children, grandchildren, and coming soon great grandchildren. Denny and I send the strength of our hearts to you and all your family. God Bless and we will see you in the near future.##imported-begin##Dennis and Yvonna (Nelson) Bays##imported-end##

September 01, 2009 at 04:53 PM



“ Dorothy was a very special friend. We kept in touch for more than 20 years after I left Waynesville High School, where I was blessed to work with her in the attendance office. This was a truly loving and funny woman whose company I always enjoyed. My condolences to her family....I am certain she will be sorely missed! I will keep the family in my prayers!##imported-begin##Renee Rubio##imported-end##

August 29, 2009 at 02:18 AM



“ It was with sadness that I read about Dorothy's (your mother, grandmother, and friend to many) passing in our local paper. I reside in Lebanon and was Dorothy's dental hygienist. We shared many laughs over the years. Dorothy had a twinkle in her eye and flare for telling a humorous story. I will miss her and I am thankful that I received one more hug from her earlier this summer.##imported-begin##Debbie Fletcher Adams##imported-end##

August 27, 2009 at 10:10 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with your family in your time of sorrow.##imported-begin##Don and Brend (Bolt) Kloepper##imported-end##

August 25, 2009 at 08:57 PM



“ Please accept my heartfelt condolences over the loss of your mother/grandmother. She was an absolute treasure. I always looked forward to seeing her walk into the bank, knowing that she would come over to my desk, sit a spell and visit. That ready smile always brightened my day. -----

I am saddened to know that I will never see it again, but I find comfort in the fact that Dorothy is with those that she so dearly loved and missed.##imported-begin##Elizabeth ##imported-end##

August 25, 2009 at 08:17 PM



“ My memories of Mrs. Franklin go back to 1972 when I was in high school and was an office aid worker with her. She was a wonderfully sweet and funny lady. I remember her husband Dubb with his bees and honey. Our sympathy goes out to all her family and circle of friends.##imported-begin##Belinda and James Sands##imported-end##

August 25, 2009 at 03:14 PM



“ John,
I was shocked upon hearing of your Mom's passing. She was a wonderful woman and never lost any of her spunk and humor. My prayers are with you and your entire family. I will miss Dorothy, she was one of a kind.
Love, Sheila##imported-begin##Sheila Debo##imported-end##

August 25, 2009 at 02:14 PM



“ I will miss the funny stories you always told. Thank you for being a dear friend to my family.##imported-begin##Nick & Erica Farnham##imported-end##

August 25, 2009 at 09:55 AM



“ My heart is heavy this morning with the loss of Dottie....I met her through a very dear friend of mine..Helen Ann Baldrige..I also had the privilege of lunch with Ina Mae, Dody, Dottie, and Helen Ann, and yes "eat dessert first because life is uncertain", and I still like to do this...the laughter from them all was so good for the soul...Dottie and I did still talk just not as often ..I have many fond memories and I will always remember them..
I never had the privilege of meeting the family but she was very proud of them all...My condolences to all...##imported-begin##Linda Goforth ##imported-end##

August 25, 2009 at 09:00 AM



“ Our Miss Doffey apparently just "stepped out" and went home. She told a story about a little girl at her church who, at a basement buffet, invited her, "Come on, Miss Doffey. Let's eat!" The funny stories she could tell...a sharp mind right up to the end...Ina Mae Smith's dearest friend; Dot, Ina, Dody Woodstock and Helen Ann (have forgotten her last name) of Richland often met for lunch--the "dessert first" bunch. For fifty-four years she was a second mom for me and my sisters...Miss Doffey, you are loved and we miss you already.##imported-begin##Marsha T Smith##imported-end##

August 24, 2009 at 03:08 PM



“ We loved Mrs. Franklin very much. She was an amazing woman!

Dorothy, please give Harla a hug for us.

Rest in Peace!

*Love, Mike and Maxine##imported-begin##Mike and Maxine
Thompson##imported-end##*

August 24, 2009 at 11:04 AM



“ I love Dorothy. What a great old friend! You could always count on Dorothy to care and be involved. Just recently she gave me money for a family who had lost their daughter. She didn't even know the girl but her heart was hurting for that family. I will miss Dorothy.##imported-begin##Luge Hardman##imported-end##

August 24, 2009 at 10:00 AM



“ Jayme, Jason and Franklin Family I'm sorry for your loss. Your grandmother was a beautiful and lovely woman who shown much kindness and was so very welcoming to myself and whomever she met. It was a blessing to meet her.

Lisa##imported-begin##Lisa Davis##imported-end##

August 24, 2009 at 09:30 AM



“ We will miss our Mother's dearest friend, Dottie! She & Mom were like sisters. Dottie was like family to us.##imported-begin##Ann M. (Smith) Filter##imported-end##

August 24, 2009 at 08:55 AM