

Ruth Edwards Bateman

Ruth Edwards Bateman, 77, of Franklin, passed away on Friday, Oct. 7, 2005.

A native of Macon County, she was the daughter of the late John Wesley and Thelma Franklin Edwards. She was preceded in death by a sister, Barbara Edwards Tallent, and a brother, John Wesley Edwards Jr.

She worked for 14 years at Western Carolina Telephone Company as a switchboard operator and retired from Nantahala Power and Light Company, with 30 years of service. She volunteered regularly at the Smoky Mountain Pregnancy Care Center and at Macon Middle School.

She attended Prentiss Church of God. She will be remembered for her enduring faith and great love. She was a prayer warrior who loved her Lord and served Him throughout her life, the family said.

She is survived by her husband of 57 years, Hubert Edward Bateman; a son, Eddie Bateman and wife JoAnn; a daughter, Terri Hunter and husband Walter; a sister, Helen Carpenter and husband Bob; her brother's wife, Ella "Jo" Edwards; Tracy Ray Tallent, whom she dearly loved; three grandsons, Jon Hunter, Luke Bateman and Matthew Bateman; two great-granddaughters, Kylie Hunter and Kandis Hunter; and several aunts, nieces and nephews.

A celebration of her life was held Monday, Oct. 10, at 11 a.m., at Prentiss Church of God. Revs. Don Moffitt and Steve Reeves officiated.

Burial was at Woodlawn Cemetery. Pallbearers were Bill Higdon, George Barrett, Gary Rowland, Brian Rowland, Denny Vanhook and Bud Green. Honorary pallbearers were retired employees of Nantahala Power and Light Company.

The family received friends Sunday, Oct. 9, at 5 p.m., at Prentiss Church of God.

The family suggests that memorials be made to the Smoky Mountain Pregnancy Care Center, 226 E. Palmer St., Franklin, NC 28734.

Bryant Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

An online memorial video is available by visiting www.MeM.com.

Online condolences may be made by visiting www.bryantfuneralhomes.com.

The Franklin Press, 11 October 2005