

Alta Gertrude "Garry" Garrett Newman Cramer, 94, of Franklin, passed away Thursday, Aug. 30, 2007, at a local hospital.

She was preceded in death by husbands, Ray Cole Newman and James C. Cramer, and 13 siblings.

Surviving are two sons, Martin Ray Newman and wife Cheri of Raleigh and Murray Newman and wife Nancy of Franklin; seven grandchildren and 11 great- grandchildren.

Born on Jan. 5, 1913, in Pennant, Sask., Canada, she was the daughter of William and Mary Ann Garrett. She graduated as an R.N. from the Salvation Army Hospital in Winnipeg, Canada, in 1938; married in 1939; and became a U.S. citizen in 1945, in Duluth, Minn., where her sons were born. She worked as night nursing supervisor at St. Luke's Hospital; was president of Merritt Elementary PTA; and was a member of Holy Apostles Church in West Duluth.

In 1961, she and husband Ray opened and operated Anders Rest Home in Bryson City, where she was active in community affairs; was president of the Business and Professional Women's Club; was crowned Swain County Centennial Queen in 1971, as well as the Bryson City Jaycees "Citizen of the Year;" and received a North Carolina Governor's citation for outstanding community service.

In 1984, she moved to Franklin in retirement and was an active member of Eastern Star and Memorial United Methodist Church and AARP. She remarried in 1992.

Her directive was for no services or memorials. Her ashes will be placed with Ray Cole Newman by family in Swain Memorial Cemetery.

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