

Hugh Dowdle, 70, of Addington Bridge Road, Franklin, passed away Tuesday, Nov. 28, 2006, at a local hospital.

A native of Macon County, he was the son of the late Ned and Nannie Guffey Dowdle. He was also preceded in death by a son, Joe Dowdle.

He retired from Wachovia Bank where he was operation manager for the western district. Hugh started his banking career with the Bank of Franklin and then First Union in Franklin, Sylva and Asheville. He was an avid flea market and pawn shop shopper. He loved playing the guitar, golfing and fishing. He was a member of Coweeta Baptist Church, where he served as a trustee.

He is survived by his wife of 20 years, Betty Vanhook Dowdle; two sons, Tony Dowdle and wife Virgie and David Dowdle and wife Deborah, all of Franklin; one stepdaughter, Lynette Lee and husband Tim of Franklin; sister-in-law, Beverly Vanhook-Schrey and husband Herb; brother-in-law, Bill Vanhook and wife Linda of Palm Bay, Fla.; six granddaughters, Shannon, Kristina, Kimberly and Alesia Dowdle, Tanya Bleckley and Chelsea Lee; two grandsons, Eric Speed and Justin Lee; two great-grandchildren, Rayna and Brooke Bleckley.

Funeral services will be held Friday, Dec. 1, at 3 p.m., at Coweeta Baptist Church, with Rev. Davis Hooper officiating.

Burial will be at Clarks Chapel United Methodist Church Cemetery. Pallbearers will be Hillary Schrey, Brandon Keener, Eric Speed, Patrick Rathbone, Keith Mason and Gary Vanhook. Honorary pallbearers will be employees of Wachovia Bank.

The family will receive friends Friday, from 1 to 3 p.m., prior to the service at Coweeta Baptist Church.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Coweeta Baptist Church Building Fund, 780 Coweeta Church Rd., Franklin, NC 28734 or to Clarks Chapel United Methodist Church Cemetery Fund, c/o Jerry Sutton, 1822 Clarks Chapel Rd., Franklin, NC 28734.

Bryant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

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