

Grace Louise Keener, 97, of Clayton, died Tuesday, Dec. 25, 2007, at a local nursing home.

She was born in Macon County, N.C., to Henry and Lillie Picklesimer Talley. She was a homemaker, a farmer and an avid gardener. She was a member of Macedonia Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert Keener, in 1978, and a brother, Ed Talley.

Survivors include: two daughters, Ruby Watts of Clayton and Eleanor Blankenship of Sylva, N.C.; a son, James Keener of Highlands, N.C.; a sister, Ellie Jenkins of Franklin, N.C.; 10 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Friday at Macedonia Baptist Church with the Rev. Everett Wilson officiating. Burial followed at Macedonia Baptist Church Cemetery. Robert Crowe, Ronnie Crowe, Kenneth Crowe, Brian Crowe, Steve Watts and Charles Reed served as pallbearers.

Bryant Funeral Home in Franklin was in charge of arrangements. An online guestbook is available at www.MeM.com.

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