

Evelyn Welch Paxton

Evelyn Welch Paxton, 81, of Franklin, passed away Monday, Feb. 14, 2005.

She was a native of Swain County and the daughter of the late Dennis Rogers Welch Sr. and Nellie Christine Jones Welch. She was also preceded in death by a son, Harold S. "Butch" Paxton, who died in 2004, and a grandson, Cameron Paxton, who died in 2000.

She retired after 30 years from Belk's Department Store in Asheville and Franklin. She was a member of Ridgecrest Baptist Church.

She is survived by her husband of 64 years, Shuford Paxton of Franklin; two sisters, Christine Crisp and husband Wayne of NewBorn, Ga., and Ann Long of Tabb, Va.; and one grandson, Shane Paxton and wife Ellen of Zion National Park, Utah.

A memorial service was held Wednesday, Feb. 16, at 2 p.m., at Ridgecrest Baptist Church. Rev. Tommy Fouts officiated.

Burial was in Ridgecrest Baptist Church Cemetery. Pallbearers were Doug Crisp and Ray Crisp.

The family received friends from 6 to 8 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 15, at Macon Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Ridgecrest Baptist Church Building Fund, 206 Ridgecrest Baptist Church Rd., Franklin, NC 28734; Angel Home Health and Hospice, 170 Church St., Franklin, NC 28734; or The Starr Program, c/o Macon County Department on Aging, 125 Hyatt Rd., Franklin, NC 28734.

Macon Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Online condolences are available by visiting [www.maconfuneralhome.com](http://www.maconfuneralhome.com).