

Cling Pressley, 89, of Pressley Creek Road, died Monday, Dec. 3, 2007, at Harris Regional Hospital, after a period of declining health.

A native and lifelong resident of Jackson County, a friend to all who knew him, Mr. Pressley retired from Western Carolina University in the electrical department with 32 years of service. He was an avid fox and rabbit hunter and one of the founders of the Tuckaseegee Beagle Club. He loved southern gospel music and was a member of Fall Cliff Baptist Church. He performed with a group that sang in churches in the area.

He was the son of the late Jake Clingman and Mary Ashe Pressley. He was also preceded in death by his wife, Mary Ellen Pierce Pressley, who died in 2003; a son, Clarence "The Mayor" Pressley; brothers, Roy and B.F. Pressley and an infant brother; sisters, Blanche Taylor and Lena McConnell.

Surviving are two sons, Ray Pressley and wife Shirley of Cullowhee; Phil Pressley and wife Sandy of Leicester; a daughter-in-law, Betty Pressley of Cullowhee; brother, Clyde Pressley of West Virginia; grandchildren, Michael Pressley and wife Michelle, Darren Pressley and wife Janie, Brandon Pressley and wife Chelsea, Drew Pressley and Katlin Pressley; great grandchildren Kelly, Jacob, Mallory and Hunter.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 7, at East Sylva Baptist Church, with the Rev. William Wooten, Tommy Owen, Johnny Norris, Roger Stewman, Tommy Holden and Clemmy Queen officiating. Burial will be in the Hooper Cemetery. The friends received friends from 6-9 p.m. Thursday, in the church.

Memorials may be made to Broyhill Children's Home, 111 Sneed Dr., Clyde, NC 28721.

Melton-Riddle Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

The Franklin Press, 7 December 2007