



Doris Taft

October 15, 1922 - May 17, 2013

Mrs. Doris Leavens Taft, age 90, passed away Friday, May 17, 2013, at her residence, following an extended illness. She was born October 15, 1922, and she was the fourth child of John and Mollie Anderson Leavens, of Coffee County, Georgia. She had nine brothers and sisters, four of whom were by John's second wife, Beatrice Baisden Leavens, following the death of Mollie in 1931. All but one brother preceded Doris in Death. Because she was only eight years old when her mother died, Doris had to grow up quickly and take on Responsibilities around the house and on the farm to help the family keep food on the table during the Depression years. In 1941, she married Wilburn Taft of Atkinson County, and they began building a life together on a Tenant farm, starting with two mules and the determination to work hard toward their shared dreams. Doris worked in the fields as much as she did in the home. In those early years, she planted cotton, corn, and peanuts with one of the mules while Wilburn was plowing with the other one. The farm they rented became their lifelong home when they were able to buy the place in 1953. There they raised their 10 children. The farm's success was greatly enabled by Doris's willingness to work side by side with her husband, by her exceptional skills at organizing multiple projects, and by her ability to teach her children and other workers how to do a job "the right way". Doris had an impeccable memory and could recall minute details about her life, her relatives, and hundreds of people she befriended in South Georgia. She had a gift for remembering names and genealogies. Strangers didn't remain strangers long, because after a few

questions, she could usually pinpoint how they were related to someone she knew. Cooking became a lifelong passion for her, and she always cooked large quantities of food for her large family and the large number of workers on the farm. Many relatives, friends, farm hand, and neighbors remember the fine meals and the bounty of delicious dishes served at her table. Doris was baptized on October 12, 1944, and became a devoted member of Mt. Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church in Atkinson County for nearly 69 years. She was preceded in death by her loving and devoted husband, Wilburn Francis Taft. She leaves behind five sons and five daughters, 17 grandchildren, 19 great great-grandchildren, and 1 great, great, great-grandchild, several nieces, nephews, friends, and other relatives. Her children and their spouses include: JoAnn Brantley, and her husband, Jimmy, of Pearson, Ga., Linda Waugh of Daytona Beach Shores, Florida, Florence Lashley, and her husband, Bobby, of Pearson, Ga., W. F. "Dub" Taft of Atlanta, Ga., Roger Taft, and his wife, Wanda, of Pearson, Ga., Carolyn Dinkins, and her husband, Robert, of Naylor, Ga., Sharon Lang, and her husband, Steven, of Pearson, Ga., Kenneth Taft, and his wife, Shannon, of Manor, Ga., Gary Taft, and his wife, Angie, of Pearson, Ga., and Vance Taft, of Pearson, Ga. 1 brother, Ronnie Leavens, and his wife, Sheila, of Elko, Ga. Funeral Services were held Sunday, May 19, 2013, at 3:00 P. M., at the Mt. Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church, with Rev. Bobby Fussell officiating. Eulogies were rendered by W. F. "Dub" Taft, and Wayne Giddens. The Interment followed in the Mt. Pleasant Cemetery. Active Pallbearers were: Ken Taft, Erik Taft, Matthew Taft, Mark Taft, Jae Brantley, John Lang, Jimbo Brantley, Stuart Dinkins, Tony Dinkins, Daniel Taft, Robert Dinkins, and Andrew Taft. Special Musical Selections, "What A Day That Will Be", was presented as a Congregational Hymn, with Betty Smith, at the Piano, and "Amazing Grace", was rendered by the grandchildren, with John Lang, at the Piano and Caleb Skipper, on the Guitar. "Pre-Lude" and "Post-Lude" soft hymns were rendered by the Pianist, Betty Smith. In Lieu of Flowers, it is requested that donations be made to the Mt. Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church. Ricketson Funeral Home was in

charge of the Arrangements.

Tribute Wall



“ *Doris Taft*

November 08, 2022 at 06:41 PM



“ *Maudine M Wright lit a candle in memory of Doris Taft*



Maudine M Wright - August 15, 2017 at 01:16 PM



“ *May God bless you and your family in this time of sorrow.*

Sammy Sweat - June 07, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ *" I have not stopped giving thanks for you". Ephesians 1:16 nivShe was a monarch, the greatest lady I ever knew. My memories and love is forever and longer.My son's Ken and Eric grandmother.My husband Kenneth Mother*

Shannon Jewell - May 28, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ *I just heard and am so sorry for your loss! Prayers for your family.*

Cheryl Jackson - May 22, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ So very sorry to hear of your Mom's passing. May you find comfort in the days ahead as happy memories come to mind. Brenda Spivey

May 20, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ To a family that has meant so much to so many, our sympathies to you all. With much love, Melissa Brown Moore and family.

Melissa Moore - May 19, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ My heartfelt condolences to the Taft family. Prayers for all. Kay Harper Paulk

May 19, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ Sharon, roger, and all the family . I just saw this about Aunt Doris. Iam so sorry . if yall ned anything please let us know. yall are in my thoughts and prayers for I no what yall are going thru. I love all yall

ann taft adams - May 19, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ JoAnn, Florence, and Family - I am so sorry to read of the passing of this special lady. I can remember (from many years ago!) you just talking of her in general with that little admiring smile on your face. Family and friends that I know, and to those that I don't, may it ease your pain to know that others do care. God will wrap you in his arms and comfort you. You will always have those precious memories of this wonderful lady. I feel sure I won't see you at visitation or the funeral, as I am "laid up" with a broken ankle. However, please remember you will be in my thoughts and prayers.

debbie boyd - May 18, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ Doris Taft

betty stone - May 18, 2013 at 12:00 AM

VE

“ Our heartfelt condolences are with the entire Taft family. May you be comforted by past memories of the love of this lady. God bless you all.

Vernon - May 18, 2013 at 12:00 AM