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**Mrs. Patricia
"Pat" Teal Allen**

Mrs. Patricia "Pat" Teal Allen passed away peacefully on December 8, 2015, at the age of 93 in her Ocean Isle Beach home surrounded by family. In passing she is reunited with her beloved husband, Fulton Coleman Allen - "Fully Darl'in," who passed away September 12, 2014.

Following Pat's wishes, a visitation is being held at Leavitt Funeral Home on Saturday, December 19, 2015, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., followed by a brief graveside service at noon in Eastview Cemetery.

Pat was born in Wadesboro on June 11, 1922, to the late Paul Teal and Mattie Bruton Teal. She was the fourth of five children. She was preceded in death by her brother Paul Teal Jr. and sisters Martha Shaw, Rachel Warren and Wyolene McFee.

Pat graduated from Wadesboro High School in 1940. She continued on to college, receiving a degree in Education at Lenoir Rhyne College in June 1944. While at Lenoir Rhyne she was a member of the A Cappella Choir, dedicating time to something she loved and continued throughout her life, music and the joy singing. Prior to completing college she married the love of her life, Fulton Coleman Allen, on December 18, 1943, just prior to his deployment as a 2nd Lieutenant in World War II. Even after 70 years of marriage, for Pat and Fully-Darl'in, their theme song *My Funny Valentine* always rang true - every day was Valentine's Day. We know she is happy to be back with Fully for this December 18th anniversary celebration.

After the war the couple settled back in their hometown of Wadesboro. There Pat continued her love of music, singing in the choir at the First Baptist Church for many years. She loved dancing with Fully well into her 80's, especially the jitterbug, and along with Fully passed on her love of dancing and music to their children Tricia and Fulton as well as all of the grandchildren.

Pat loved the beach and her beach house at Ocean Isle, NC where she had a second home that she and Fully eventually made their permanent residence. As she often said, "Heaven is a little closer at the beach." She loved to spend time with the wonderful and supportive friends at Ocean Isle as well as with the many longtime friends and family from Wadesboro.

Pat was a devoted wife,

Obituaries

mother and grandmother. She continued to demonstrate her unconditional, unwavering love for her husband during his lengthy journey with Alzheimer's disease, showing a depth in her love that will forever be an example revered by family and friends.

She is survived by two devoted and loving children, Patricia Allen Estes (Robert) and Fulton Allen, Jr. (Debra); her four grandchildren, Christina Allen Estes Bunch (Wendell), Fulton Coleman Allen III, Robert Allen Estes and Carston Alexander Teal Allen; and many beloved nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, individuals may wish to make a donation to Shallotte Presbyterian Church, P.O. Box 3256 Shallotte, NC 28459 or to: Anson County Historical Society, 206 East Wade St, Wadesboro, NC 28170.

The arrangements are in care of Leavitt Funeral Home. Online condolences may be made to leavittfuneralhomewadesboro.com.

**Mrs. Mararuth
Allen Cox**

Mrs. Mararuth Allen Cox, 94 years young, went to be with her Lord on Monday, December 7, 2015, after fighting an amazing battle with the effects of a stroke in 2011. It might have robbed her of her speech and movement but she held onto her faith, her sense of humor, and her will to stay on this Earth as long as possible for her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren whom she loved so dearly. She loved nothing more than having her family all around her, and she pulled through even the most difficult times herself in order to have that precious time with them.

There will be a service to celebrate her life at 1 p.m. on Saturday, January 9, 2016, at First Baptist Church, Wadesboro with a reception following at the church. Private interment will be in Eastview Cemetery. The family will greet friends from 5 p.m. until on Friday, January 8, 2016, at Leavitt Funeral Home.

Mararuth was born in Wadesboro on September 15, 1921, to Nannie Huntley Allen and Hampton Bennett Allen. She was preceded in death by her husband, Norwood Cox and siblings, Hampton Allen, Fred Allen, Nancy Allen Snuggs and Evalyn Allen Huntley.

She leaves to cherish her memory her children and their spouses whom she adored, Mararuth (Joe) Capell of Kure Beach, NC, Peggy (Jerry) Bernstein of Raleigh, Adele (Doug) Cines of Wynnewood, PA and Nick (Janet) Cox of Wadesboro; 12 grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren.

Mararuth was a mother to many others than her own and was lovingly referred to as "MaMa." There was always a place in her life and in her heart for anyone who needed or wanted to feel the most incredible love from someone with no agenda but caring. There is a huge

hole in many hearts as she has gone on to a better place where she can reunite with so many friends and revel in a new life without pain and limitations. Those of us left behind celebrate the miracle that we had her in our lives to love us and to help mold us into the people we are today. That was surely one of her greatest gifts to us. She would ask that we fill the hole in our hearts by doing for others - something she did her whole life.

Mararuth's greatest gift to her Lord was loving and doing whatever needed to be done for any of His children - those who could expect a home-cooked meal or something special she thought would taste good when appetites were waning. She was a natural at spirit-lifting, listening, and stopping in to check on those who were sick or home-bound. It was also her gift to just be available and welcoming to any who needed her. Her inner joy and wisdom she passed on with ease and kindness. To her, it was just what she was put here to do.

Mararuth was a vibrant and active volunteer in many areas. She was a lifelong member of First Baptist Church of Wadesboro. She served in many areas in her church, among those Sunday school teacher, choir member, and Deacon. Singing was one of her passions and she spent her life singing in the choir and as soloist at weddings and funerals in her younger years. There was no big surprise when she would show up at the nursing home or at a family reunion dressed up in one of several costumes with a song to the delight of those present. Many will remember her fondly dressed as a ladybug singing, "The Love Bug'll Get You If You Don't Watch Out!"

Her community involvement included membership on various boards such as: the Council on Alcoholism, Anson House, and Anson Crisis Center. She was a charter member of the hospital auxiliary, and co-chaired the Anson County United Way Campaign. She was a community host for the Special Olympics, and a volunteer for the Anson County Blood Mobile. Mararuth's volunteer efforts resulted in her receiving several awards: Governor's Volunteer Award in 1997, Woodmen of the World's Outstanding Citizen's Award in 1999, and Rotary International Person of the Year Award in 2002.

The family wishes to express special thanks to some key people in Mararuth's life, Dr. Carroll Overton of Raleigh, Dr. Victoria Rommel of Myrtle Beach, SC, and all of the caregivers at WakeMed Rehabilitation Hospital in Raleigh. Very special thanks and love go to her team of caregivers in her home for the last four years, Wanda Diggs, Lilly Sturdivant, Rachel Locklear and Linda Allen, and her home-health nurse, Kathy McLaurin. She truly loved you all as her own and her family will be forever thankful for your loyal and loving care.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Anson Crisis Ministry, P.O. Box 797, Wades-

boro, NC 28170 or to First Baptist Church Chancel Choir, P.O. Box 423, Wadesboro, NC 28170, or a charity of one's choice.

The arrangements are in care of Leavitt Funeral Home. Online condolences may be made at leavittfuneralhomewadesboro.com.

**Mr. Billy
Eugene Lear**

Mr. Billy Eugene Lear, 77, died Saturday December 12, 2015, at his daughter's home in Davidson, NC.

Funeral services were held on Monday, December 14, 2015, in the chapel of Leavitt Funeral Home. Interment followed at Mt. Beulah Baptist Church Cemetery.

Billy was born in Ruby, SC on March 7, 1938, son of the late Millard and Bessie Harrington Lear. He was retired from Little Cotton Manufacturing and was a faithful member of Mt. Beulah Baptist Church. He loved painting and doing side jobs for his church family and dear friends.

Surviving are his loving wife of 52 years, Mary Bunn "Lib" Lear of the home; his daughter, Joyce Lear Page of Davidson; and two grandsons, Garrett and Trey Page.

In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by his brothers, Leroy and Bobby Lear.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Cancer Care Fund, FirstHealth of the Carolinas, P.O. Box 3000, Pinehurst, NC 28374.

The arrangements were in care of Leavitt Funeral Home. Online condolences may be made at leavittfuneralhomewadesboro.com.

**Mrs. Jewell
Haney Pigg**

Mrs. Jewell Haney Pigg, 89, died Wednesday, December 9, 2015, at Meadowview Terrace Assisted Living in Wadesboro.

A memorial service will be held on Thursday December 17, 2015, at 2:00 p.m. at First Baptist Church with Dr. Robert Hunter officiating. The family will greet friends one hour before the service in the church parlor. A graveside service will follow the memorial service at Eastview Cemetery.

Mrs. Pigg was born in Union County, NC on January 10, 1926. She was preceded in death by her husband, Amos William Pigg, Sr. of Wadesboro; her parents Bascom and Dessie Haney of Marshville; and her brother, Blaine Haney of Charlotte.

She is survived by two sons, Amos William Pigg, Jr. of Rural Hall, NC and Sloane Wayne Pigg of Kernersville, NC; and two grandchildren, David Alexander Pigg and

Thomas Michael Pigg, both of Kernersville.

Her life's career was as a church secretary, serving at Mt. Beulah Baptist Church in Wadesboro, North Wadesboro Baptist Church, and also serving the Anson Baptist Association. She was a loyal member of First Baptist Church in Wadesboro for most of her adult life.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorials be made to First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 423, Wadesboro, NC 28170.

The arrangements are in care of Leavitt Funeral Home. Online condolences may be made at leavittfuneralhomewadesboro.com.

**Mr. Horace
Kenneth
"Ken" Pope, Jr.**

Mr. Horace Kenneth "Ken" Pope, Jr., 87, died Thursday, December 10, 2015, at CMC-Union in Monroe.

Funeral services were held on Sunday, December 13, 2015, at Polkton Baptist Church with Rev. John Greene and Rev. Rex Burleson officiating. Interment followed in Williams Cemetery.

Born in Anson County on August 20, 1928, he was the son of the late Horace Kenneth and Pearl Tucker Pope. He was a retired farmer and a longtime member of Polkton Baptist Church.

Survivors include his wife of 65 years, Laura Hildreth Pope of the home; their children, Danny Pope, Sherry Sturgill (Enoch), Carol P. Harrington and Tony Pope (Joy), all of Polkton; four grandchildren, Heather Hicks, Emily Hardison, Bree Bowers and Sarah Pope; three great-grandchildren, Kelsey Dyson, Natalie Hicks and Summer Hardison; and brothers and sisters, Grace Pope of Nashville, NC, Brad Pope of Wadesboro, and Frank Pope and Shasta Thompson, both of Ansonville.

Ken was preceded in death by a brother, Tommy Pope and two grandchildren, Seab Pope and Summer Taylor.

Leavitt Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements. Online condolences may be made at leavittfuneralhomewadesboro.com.

**Mr. Thomas
Boyd Tyson, Jr.**

Mr. Thomas Boyd Tyson, Jr., 79, of Conover, NC died Tuesday, December 8, 2015, at Frye Regional Medical Center.

The funeral took place on Saturday, December 12, 2015, at Jenkins Funeral Home Chapel with David Chapman officiating. Burial follow at Conover Cemetery.

Born January 6, 1936, he was the son of

the late Thomas Boyd Tyson, Sr. and Myrtle Virginia Blalock Tyson. He worked with Collins and Aikman for over 32 years, and retired from Spectrum Dyed Yarns after seven years.

He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Margie Estelle Aldridge Tyson of the home; three sons, Thomas Boyd Tyson, III of Davidson, Douglas Ray Tyson (Kelly) of Drexel and Michael Clayton Tyson (Mary) of Otto, NC; four sisters, Bessie Stubbs of Charlotte, Julia Morton of Kershaw, SC, Star Smith of Lancaster, SC and Sybil Almond of Wadesboro; a brother, Frank Tyson of Charlotte, seven grandchildren; and four great grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to Gideons International Catawba Camp.

Please sign the online guestbook at jenkinsfuneralhome.net. The Tyson family entrusted arrangements to Jenkins Funeral Home and Cremation Service in Newton.

**Mr. Hugh
Allen Watkins**

Mr. Hugh Allen Watkins, 91, died Sunday, December 6, 2015, at his home.

Funeral services were held on Thursday, December 10, 2015, in the Chapel of Leavitt Funeral Home with Rev. Chris Jackson officiating. Burial with military honors took place on Friday, December 11, 2015, in Anson Memorial Park.

Hugh was born March 15, 1924, in Anson County, a son of the late John T. Watkins and the late Pearl Howard Watkins Burr. He was retired from Seaboard Coastline Railroad and Wansona. Following his retirement he later worked with Cuddy Farms. He was a mechanic. Hugh was a veteran of the United States Army Air Force, serving during both World War II and Korean Conflict.

Surviving are his daughter, Kim Wright of Wadesboro; grandsons, Gary Jones of Hamlet, Christopher Jones of Elon and Robert Jones of Lilesville; 10 great-grandchildren; and his sister and brother, Jo Watkins Alexander of Bethesda, MD and Harold Burr of Sumter, SC.

In addition to his parents, Hugh was preceded in death by Aileen Ray Watkins and his brothers and sisters, John Watkins, William Watkins, Carol Burr, Alma Webb, Ruth Gray and Nancy Louise Burr.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Leavitt Funeral Home, P.O. Box 274, Wadesboro, NC 28170 in an effort to assist with funeral expenses.

**Thank you
for reading
The Express!**

Mrs. Jean Austin Sheppard



Mrs. Jean Austin Sheppard, 85 of Lilesville left to be with our Lord on Sunday, December 13, 2015.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, December 16, 2015, at Forestville United Methodist Church with Rev. Kaye Fry officiating. Interment will follow at 1:30 p.m. in the Hopewell United Methodist Church Cemetery in Peachland. The family will

great friends on Wednesday immediately following the service at Forestville UMC. Jean was born September 29, 1930, the youngest daughter of Jodie and Lula Sinclair Austin. She grew up in Marshville and graduated from Marshville High School where she excelled in basketball, Beta Club and band. She married Elgie Gardner Sheppard and moved to Lilesville. Jean worked with Burlington Hosiery and later with Scarborough True Value Hardware in Wadesboro where she loved her employers, co-workers and customers, and they loved her!

Jean served faithfully as organist, pianist and choir member at Forestville UMC. Never having had a piano lesson, Jean could play beautifully even as a child and she continued to share this gift with others her entire life. She also enjoyed working on numerous church projects, especially Ingathering and MYF.

Jean loved people and never met a stranger. She loved to cook chicken and dumplings and pecan pies for friends and family. She also enjoyed both flower and vegetable gardening which she affectionately referred to as her "therapy."

Survivors include her daughter, Vickie (Sam) Pesce of Peachland; a son, Norris (Debbie) Sheppard of Peachland; five grandchildren, David Pesce, Kristie McCollum, Trent (Kelly) Sheppard, Tyler Sheppard and Mirandi (Tyler) Chewing; five great-grandchildren (plus one more on the way!), Brianna McCollum, Genna McCollum, Aiden Sheppard, John Carter Chewing and Lyla Lee Chewing; many nieces and nephews whose birthdays Jean could uncannily recall; and her beloved miniature poodle "Jo-Jo."

Jean was preceded in death by her husband of 66 years, Elgie Sheppard, who passed away on October 15, 2015, and the family is comforted knowing that "Granny" and "Papa" will be spending their first Christmas in heaven together. Jean was also preceded in death by her beloved three brothers, James, J. V. and Max Austin and her three sisters, Ruby Stegall, Nellie Tarlton and Emma Phifer.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Hopewell UMC c/o Susie McSwain, 424 Pork Rd., Peachland, NC 28133 or to Forestville UMC c/o Debra Moss, 133 Forest Rd., Lilesville, NC 28091.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!



Holly Allison Kiker, OD

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