



Ruby Bates Pierce

September 8, 1916 - November 11, 2016

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Ruby Bates Pierce went Home on Friday, November 11, 2016, being 100 years, 9 weeks and 1 day old. Ruby was born on September 8, 1916, the sixth of eight children to John Frances Cordelia (Kirk) Bates and Mary Louanna (Lula) Coble Bates at Beaverdam Creek, Centerville, Tennessee. She met and married the love of her life, Jack Clifford Pierce on October 30, 1932. Four children were blessed to have them as their parents: John Clifford, born September 7, 1933 and passed away on October 22, 1933; Dottie Loretta Pierce Chaffin, born October 27, 1934 and passed away on February 7, 2001; Bettie Sue Pierce Jones, born June 27, 1936; and Carl Franklin Pierce, born on February 16, 1939 and passed away on June 30, 1939. In 1941 the family moved to Detroit, Michigan and in 1958 she and Jack moved to Warren, Michigan. Jack passed away on December 2, 1990. Ruby moved to Ypsilanti, Michigan, in June of 2002, where she made her home for the remainder of her life with Bettie and Earnest Donald Jones. Ruby and Jack both were baptized and added to the Church of Christ in 1939 and worked together for many, many years teaching home Bible studies, teaching Bible classes and helped

in many other activities for the Church. Jack served as an elder of the North Warren and Parkview congregations. Ruby made many quilts for her family, friends and for the children's hospital. Dottie and her husband, Oscar Thurrel Chaffin, both deceased, have three children: Clifford; Mark and Barry. Bettie and her husband, Earnest D. Jones, have two children: Cynthia and Donald. Ruby is Grandmother to: Cynthia Jones; Clifford (Debbie) Chaffin; Donald (Dawn) Jones; Mark (Ann) Chaffin and Barry (Mary) Chaffin. Ruby is Great-Grandmother to Erin Jones; Austin (Meghan) Jones; Gordon Chaffin; Neil Chaffin; Rebecca Chaffin; Zachary (Bri); Rachel Chaffin; Emily Chaffin and James Chaffin. Ruby is Great-Great-Grandmother to: Blakley Jones; Hoyt Jones and Mavryck Jones. Ruby is survived by her youngest sister, Mable Taylor of Oak Ridge, Tennessee, and was preceded in death by her parents, her three sisters, Irrie Mayberry, Beulah Shepard, Lucy Johnston and three brothers, Emmett, Claude and Ernest Bates.

Visitation will be held from 3 PM to 7PM and funeral service at 7 PM on Monday, November 14, 2016, ,at the Milan Church of Christ, 825 Church Street, Milan, Michigan with Bro. Dennis Swindle, Officiating. Burial will take place in Centerville, Tennessee at the Wade-Peeler Cemetery, with Bro. Barry Chaffin, officiating.

In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be given to the Milan Church of Christ, 825 Church Street, Milan, Michigan, or to the Shults-Lewis Child and Family Services, P. O. Box 471, Valparaiso, IN 46384. A special thank you from the family to Dennis and Brenda Swindle for all of their loving care, visits and prayers.

Cemetery Details

Wade-Peeler

Centerville, TN 37033

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 17. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

McDonald Funeral Home, Inc. - Hickman County
102 West End Ave.
Centerville, TN 37033
(931) 729-3561

Graveside Service

NOV 17. 1:30 PM (CT)

Wade-Peeler
Centerville, TN 37033

Tribute Wall

“ I would have thought Aunt Ruby had been born with her signature French twist had she not loved to show a picture of her and Mother (Mable) as kids cutting wood with a crosscut saw. She was the elegant aunt who came to visit with her fashionably dressed daughters Bettie and Dottie, giving this farm girl a glimpse into suburban life. I still have the bottle of Ermarude perfume she gave me as a kid because I told her she smelled good. When I went to work in 1964, I recognized the stationery she had written to me on--Crane "red Florentine"--in a store, bought it and still use it. Aunt Ruby was a hard worker. Even before she retired, she and Uncle Jack had an extensive intensive garden and orchard operation at their home in Warren. When she moved to Ypsilanti 13 years ago, she continued to diligently garden with Bettie and Don well past her mid-90s, even when she had to ride to the garden to pick those beans, etc. The way she grew, harvested, canned and ate green beans, I decided they were the fountain of youth. Through at least last fall, she was still breaking beans to can and peeling apples to process. (In Michigan, they even pick apples to feed the deer. We make the deer pick their own apples or wait for the ones they can't reach to fall.) When there wasn't gardening, she sewed. I wondered how many of the new mothers who received a baby quilt from the hospital knew the quilt had been made and donated by a woman well into her 90s. A Christian, she lived her faith every day. When Uncle Jack and Dottie went on mission trips, it was she who kept things running at home. She lived the full measure of her life for an entire century. Fiercely independent she remained intent on maintaining her mobility; she didn't want to be waited on and at 98 still prided herself on living separately and on doing her own cooking and housework, even if it eventually became getting her own breakfast cereal. Until her final month or so, she continued to be very private, walking to the bathroom, bathing and caring for herself as long as possible. She was truly remarkable and is fondly and reverently remembered by this niece. --Anne Taylor Powell, Oak Ridge, Tennessee

JM

What a wonderful story of a wonderful life. Thank you for sharing, Anne Taylor Powell.

Joyce G Mayberry - November 16, 2016 at 10:52 PM