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Houston County Courier

*Everman
Crockett*

JESSIE MILDRED BARNES

Mrs. Jessie Mildred Barnes, age 93 of Crockett, passed away Tuesday, January 29, 2008, in the East Texas Medical Center-Crockett. She was born on November 10, 1914 in Crockett, Texas to her parents Homer and Lela Manville. She grew up in Crockett, went to school here and graduated from Crockett High School. She was a very dedicated student, had perfect attendance and walked three miles to school each day.

She married Jarrett Barnes on September 2, 1933, and they had two daughters, Lela Anne and Thelma. She worked at Betts Dry Goods and Variety Goods on the square in Crockett, in the building which now houses the Court House Annex on Goliad Avenue. She was manager of the variety store and it was located downstairs in the basement with the entrance on South 4th Street.

She later worked for Mrs. Delbert Brown at Fairyland's, a children's dress shop located on Houston Avenue where Thomas McLendon presently has his business.

Her husband, Jarrett, passed away in 1950. She never remarried and raised her daughters as a single parent. She worked very hard giving her daughters every advantage. She was a wonderful, caring mother through the years, showing sacrificial love for them, providing for them and not once thinking of her needs.

She worked two jobs, her regular job and worked as an excellent seamstress on the side. She made wedding dresses, prom dresses, and any type of dress even without patterns and did all kinds of alterations.

Later years, she joined Jimmy and William Spruill as their bookkeeper and clerk in the business of Spruill Builders Supply. While working for them, Floy Spruill originated a floral business, named it Crockett Florist and it was located where Crockett Bank is today. She learned floral design and loved working with flowers. After working for the Spruill family for 32 years, she retired.

She later returned to the floral business and worked for Janie Ivins at Janie's Flower Shop. She enjoyed arranging flowers and helping her customers with their floral needs. She was a very talented lady, anything she strived to do, she did it well.

She was a member of the First United Methodist Church for fifty-seven years, she loved the Lord and her family was a very important part of her life.

Mothers are a gift from God and her family was truly blessed having Mrs. Mildred Barnes as their mother and grandmother. She was a very loving and caring person. She was a real lady from years ago, where she was taught manners and used them graciously.

No one ever did anything for Mrs. Barnes that she didn't thank them for. She always used the words, "Mam," "Yes Mam" and "No Mam," words not heard too much in these days.

Survivors include her daughters Lela Anne Lackey and husband Curtis Wendell, of Arlington, Thelma Broxson and husband E. J., of Lovelady; grandchildren Dana Lynn