

HCC
3-7-02



BEN WESLEY BURNS, JR.

Mr. Ben Wesley Burns, Jr. was born on March 3, 1909 in Grapeland, to the parentage of the late Ben Wesley, Sr. and Jettie Ann Burns. Mr. was the third of seven siblings. Mr. Burns attended Elementary School in the Cedar Branch Community but graduated from Butler High School in Tyler. Mr. Burns furthered his education at Prairie View A&M College where he earned his degree. Mr. Burns educational career was quite extensive. Mr. Burns taught school at Daily Community in Grapeland, Cuney and Rusk. In addition to teaching Voca-

tional Agriculture, he also coached for 45 years. Mr. Burns joined Cedar Branch Baptist Church at an early age and remained a member until he moved to Cuney. There, he joined Rock Hill Baptist Church and served as a Deacon. Mr. Burns was a faithful and dedicated member until his health failed him. In 1938, he was united in Holy Matrimony to Bessie Vernyse Jameson. There, were no children born to this union.

Mr. Ben Wesley Burns, Jr. departed this life on February 19, 2002. Mr. Burns was preceded in death by his parents, wife, sisters (Lillie Mae Johnson, of Oakwood, and Leoda Rhine, of Los Angeles, CA.) and brothers (Jim H. Burns, and Ernest Burns, of Grapeland). Mr. burns survivors include sisters, Martha Brittain, of Dallas, and Mary J. Shepherd, of Grapeland; nieces, Esther R. Crayton, and Jettie M. Pierson, of Los Angeles, CA., Lee R. Mayfield, of Cedar Hill, and Esther Walker, of Grapeland; nephews, Eddie Bryant, Wilbert Bryant, and Artie Bryant, Charles Shepherd, Billye Shephard, and Clarence Brittain, Jr. all of Dallas, Herman Shepherd, of Shreveport, LA. Earl H. Burns, of Plano, David Shepherd, of Houston, Harold Shepherd, of Grapeland; a host of other relatives and friends.

Active Pallbearers, Floyd Marshall, Wendell Wilmore, David Shepherd, Charles Shepherd, and Roger Boykin.

Honorary Pallbearers, Earl H. Burns, Harold Williams, J.C. Boykin, Harold Shepherd, Eddie Bryant, and Herman Shepherd.

Funeral services for Mr. Ben Wesley Burns, Jr. were held Sunday, February 24, at 1:00 p.m. in Rock Hill Baptist Church in Cuney with the Rev. Dale Simpson officiating. Interment followed in Cedar Branch Cemetery.

Barkley Mortuary

Cedar Branch