

Evergreen Lovelady

Houston County Courier

March 10, 2008

ELLA FRANCES MAINER DODD

Mrs. Ella Frances Mainer Dodd, age 102 years, 11 months of Lovelady, TX passed away at 1:20 a.m. on Sunday, February 24, 2008. Mrs. Dodd was the widow of James Bard Dodd. Mrs. Dodd was born March 24, 1905 in Lovelady to Thomas Nelms Mainer and Martha "Mattie" Kyle Williams Mainer, and was the oldest of seven children. Upon graduating from Lovelady High School, she attended Mary Hardin Baylor in Belton, TX and Baylor University in Waco, TX.

Mrs. Dodd's first teaching job was at Camp Letcher, a lumber camp near Conroe, TX., and then taught High School English in Yoakum, TX. Mrs. Dodd met James Bard Dodd in Yoakum, and they married in Lovelady on June 8, 1932. He passed away on September 18, 2001 in Lovelady. Mrs. Dodd taught school in Cuero, TX and New Braunfels, TX where she retired in 1961.

Mrs. Dodd and Bard then moved to Lovelady where they went into the grocery and general merchandise business with her sister, Margaret Muenker. They sold the store and retired in 1972. Mrs. Dodd was interested in many things.

Mrs. Dodd was a member of the Baptist Church, was a Sunday school teacher, and the church pianist and organist in Yoakum, Cuero, Houston, New Braunfels and Lovelady. Mrs. Dodd was a member of garden clubs and literary clubs and helped start the Yoakum town library. Mrs. Dodd was on the Evergreen Cemetery Committee in Lovelady.

Helping her father with family history, she became very interested in genealogy. Mrs. Dodd joined the Houston County Historical Society and the National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) in Crockett, Texas. Mrs. Dodd compiled several books of wills and marriages for the DAR. Mrs. Dodd was a co-editor for the "Lovelady, Texas Centennial - 1872-1972" book, and wrote several articles on different families for the "History of Houston County, Texas 1687-1979" book. Mrs. Dodd published her father's works "Houston County in the Civil War", and compiled and published a Mainer family history and a Nelms family history. At the present time, the Lovelady, Texas Centennial book is being upgraded, and the new book will be dedicated to Ella Frances Mainer Dodd for all her contributions in genealogy and history of the Lovelady area.

Survivors include her daughter Martha Lynn, wife of Nick Gass, Jr., of New Braunfels; sons James Barney Dodd and Eugene Mainer Dodd, of Lovelady; grandchildren Janice Lynn Gass Baucum and husband Brent Baucum, of Cibolo, Linda Kaye Gass, of Austin, James Michael Gass, of New Braunfels, Michael Wayne Dodd and wife Brenda Joyce, of Colonial Heights, Va. Jeffrey Michael Louis and wife Dallas, of Spring, James Brian Dodd IV and wife Amy, of Tomball, Toby John Dodd, of Lafayette, La. and Sandy Marie Dodd Price and husband Marshall, of Mobile, Ala.; great-grandchildren Brandi Le Dodd-Goetz, of Hutchinson, Kan., Ethan Michael Louis, Emma Kaye Louis and Elliott Walker Louis, of Spring, and Madison Bailey Dodd, of Tomball; sisters Lucile Mainer Boyd, of Harleton, Pollyanna Mainer McEldowney, of Olathe, Kan.; brother-in-law Roger Helm, of New Braunfels; sister-in-law Floy Scott Mainer Vance, of Atlanta, Ga.; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Preceded in death by her parents Thomas Nelms Mainer and Martha "Mattie" Kyle Williams Mainer; her brothers and sisters Margaret Mainer Muenker and husband Emmett W. Muenker, Thomas Nelms Mainer Jr., Daniel Southerland Mainer, and Elsie Beth Mainer Helm; sister-in-laws Winnie Dodd Hiltz, Ted Dodd Karasek; and brother-in-law Barney A. Dodd.

Funeral Services for Mrs. Ella Frances Mainer Dodd were held on Tuesday, February 26, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. in the First Baptist Church of Lovelady with the Rev. Scott Matthews officiating. Interment followed in the Lovelady Evergreen Cemetery.

Callaway-Allee Funeral Home