

Grapeland Messenger

Jan. 29, 04

Cedar Branch

Mary Jane Burns Shepherd

Funeral services for Mary Jane Burns Shepherd were held Saturday, January 17, 2004 at 11:00 a.m. in the Cedar Branch Baptist Church with Rev. Fankie Jackson pastor and officiant. Internment followed in the Cedar Branch Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Wayne Shepherd, Darrell Shepherd, DeKeetho Shepherd, Charles Shepherd, Jr., Kelvin Shepherd, Raymond Shepherd and Wendell Wilmore.

Honorary pallbearers were Harold Shepherd, Charles Shepherd, Sr., Billy Shepherd, Herman Shepherd, David Shepherd, John E. Shepherd and Henry A. Shepherd.

Mrs. Shepherd passed away on Monday, January 12, 2004. She was born July 30, 1918 to Ben Wesley Burns, Sr. and Jettie Ann Burns. She attended school in the Cedar Branch Community and joined Cedar Branch Baptist Church at an early age. She was a member of the choir and was faithful in her commitment to the church until her health failed. She was also a member of the Order of the Eastern Star. Early in life she met and married John W. Isadore, now deceased. To this union, one daughter was born. Later, she united with Henry O'dell

(Sanders) Shepherd, now deceased. To this union, seven children were born.

Her parents; one son, Sandral L. Shepherd; one stepdaughter, Vera Shepherd Denby; two sisters, Lillie Mae Johnson and Leoda Rhine and three brothers, Ben Wesley Burns, Jr., Jim Henry Burns and Ernest Burns, preceded her in death.

She is survived by her two daughters, Jettie Mae Pierson and husband, Henry of Los Angeles, Esther J. Walker and husband, Eddie of Grapeland; sons, Harold D. Shepherd and wife, Jean of Grapeland, Herman Shepherd and wife, Geneva of DeSoto, Charles Shepherd and wife, Linda and Billy Ray Shepherd both of Dallas and David Shepherd and wife, Bobbie of Houston; 34 grandchildren; a host of great-grandchildren; one great great-grandchild; sisters, Martha A. Brittan of Dallas; devoted niece, Esther Rose Crayton; two step-sons, John E. Shepherd and wife, Louise of Colorado Springs, CO. and Henry A. Shepherd of Dallas; step-daughter, Annette Shepherd Dennis of Dallas; sisters-in-law, Velasta Burns, Lue Ballard and Mary Ann Abbs; two nieces; five nephews; a host of other relatives and friends.