

Shady Grove

**ERNESTINE HALE
CARPENTER SMITH**

Mrs. Ernestine Hale Carpenter Smith, a long time educator and public school teacher in Houston County, passed away September 12, 2002 in Thibodaux, Louisiana, at the age of 97 years.

"Miss Ernestine" was born in Houston County on July 21, 1905, the daughter of Nora Goodwin Hale and Oscar Burnett "Deb" Hale. Mrs. Smith graduated from Crockett High School and earned both bachelor and Master of Arts degrees from Sam Houston State Teachers College. Mrs. Smith's forty-year teaching

career began in the Lone Pine and Porter Springs communities and concluded in the Crockett School District in 1970. Mrs. Smith enjoyed poetry, art, learning, and children. Above all, she loved to teach young people. Mrs. Smith continued to write poetry and teach English as a second language to foreign students long after retirement. Mrs. Smith was a life-long member of the First Baptist Church, serving in the church choir and teaching Sunday school classes for many years. Mrs. Smith was also a member of the Eastern Star and the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Preceded in death by her husbands Lee Harrell Carpenter and Johnson David Smith; two sisters Catharine Hale Judkins and Patty Hale Reese.

Survivors include her son Harrell H. Carpenter and wife Jo A. Carpenter, of Thibodaux, La.; brother Gean B. Hale and wife Judy, of Nacogdoches; grandsons Kyle Hale Carpenter, of Baton Rouge, La., and Charles K. Carpenter, of Slidell, La.; five great-grandchildren Christopher, Adam, Alyce, Marie, and Anna Carpenter, of La.; nephew Jeff Hale of Nacogdoches; and niece Rebecca Crossen, of Colo.

Graveside funeral services were held Monday, September 16 at 11:00 a.m. in the Shady Grove Cemetery with the Rev. E.P. Ramsey Jr. officiating. Interment followed.

**Callaway-Allee Funeral
Home**