



Mary Florence (Clevenger) Bryant

August 18, 1923 - November 19, 2012

Mary Florence (Clevenger) Bryant, 89, a native of Cocke County and resident of White Pine since 1995, died Nov. 19 under hospice care at her son's home in Nashville. She had suffered a debilitating stroke in January.

She was born August 18, 1923 in Newport, the daughter of Dan and Essie (Kyker) Clevenger.

Mary is preceded in death by her parents, husband James, infant son Glen Daniel, sister Georgie Ball, and brothers Stanley and Ernest. She is survived by son Charles Eugene (Gene) Bryant, Nashville, and family friend David Hamblin, Nashville; brother William Royce Clevenger, Morristown; sister Ina Ruth Ball, Russellville; and special niece Pat Coffey-Trotter, Russellville.

Mary and James Bryant were longtime residents of the English Creek Community. They operated James Bryant Grocery on the old Cosby Road during the 1970s and '80s. After James died in 1994, Mary moved to White Pine. In recent years she had divided her residency between White Pine and Nashville, where Gene provided care throughout her declining health.

Family and friends will gather in the Manes Funeral Home at 6:00 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 24. A memorial service will begin at 7:30, with the Rev. Dr. Dan Rosemergy, minister of the Greater Nashville Unitarian Universalist Congregation, officiating. Visitations may continue briefly after the service. Gene will eulogize his mother, focusing on her life since his father's death, including the last six years she spent with him in Nashville. He will also highlight his parents' Clevenger-Bryant and Cocke County heritage. Mary is

the third generation great granddaughter of Thomas and Psyche "Sitche" Clevenger, who migrated from Shenandoah County, Va. in 1795 as the first Clevengers to settle in present-day Cocke County (on land now owned by ConAgra on Edwina Road, where two-centuries-old family headstones still exist). James was the second generation great grandson of Tarlton Bryant, who came from South Carolina around 1805 and settled along English Creek in the vicinity of present-day Bogard and Friendship roads. Mary is also the second-generation great granddaughter of 18th-century German immigrant Kuonrat Keicher (Kyker), whose grandson (Mary's great-grandfather), Joseph Jackson Kyker, settled in the Bogard Community around 1850.

The service will cite history of the Big Pigeon Primitive Baptist Church, the first church in Cocke County and the spiritual home for Clevengers and Bryants for almost two centuries. Mary joined the church in 1948, a little more than a decade before that congregation eventually disbanded.

Mary will be buried beside her husband in the Bryant-Sisk Cemetery in the English Creek Community.

Tribute Wall



“ *Mary Florence (Clevenger) Bryant*

November 17, 2022 at 06:00 PM



“ *My family of the clevenger family member remember the good times going to the store being around the clevenger family*

Velda Joan markleymarsh - April 29, 2019 at 12:00 AM



“ *Really sorry to hear about your mother....my prayers are with you and your family. Junior Bryant*

Oliver N. Bryant, Jr. - December 25, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Gene, I am Mary Edith & Lloyd's granddaughter. So sorry for your loss. Mary was a great lady I always remember her your dad coming over to visit Nana & Papaw when I was little. I always liked when they stopped by. They were both great individuals and will*

Susan Ball - November 29, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Mary Florence (Clevenger) Bryant*

Hoyt and Shirley Ball - November 24, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Sorry for the loss of your mother who was a very sweet woman.*

Jack & Mary R. Bryant & Ella Mae Dunn - November 24, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BJ

“ I am so sorry to learn of your mother's death. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

Betty Kate Jones - November 24, 2012 at 12:00 AM

LD

“ Gene so sorry for your lost interesting to learn some of our family history thanks

Louise Clevenger Dyer - November 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SK

“ Sending love and deepest sympathies

Shelly Kyker - November 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ I am so sorry about your loss. I know you have many fond memories of her life.

Carol Chason - November 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DR

“ Gene and David, Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. We pray for your strength through the difficult days and know we are here for you both.

Debbie & Harry Rooks - November 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CG

“ My heartfelt sympathies are with the Bryant family. James and Mary were not aware but they will forever be fond memories of my childhood. It used to be a big deal to go to the "store" and they both were always so nice and friendly. Whenever I visit home I

Clara (Ramsey) Gaskins - November 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ *Mary Florence (Clevenger) Bryant*

KATHY AND BUDDY BARNETT - November 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ *Mary Florence (Clevenger) Bryant*

Steve @ Elaine Clevenger - November 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM

NR

“ *Mary Florence (Clevenger) Bryant*

Nancy Moore Raines - November 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM

LD

“ *Mary Florence (Clevenger) Bryant*

Linnie Denton - November 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ *Dear Family, I am sorry to hear about Aunt Mary. I will be praying for strength, peace and understanding for you all. She will be the family guardian angel now. Be blessed.*

Stephani Clevenger-Murphy - November 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM