



Avonelle D Rooks

December 20, 1924 - May 3, 2013

Avonelle Durham Rooks passed away at home on May 3, 2013. She was born a Cullman County farm girl in 1924. Nelle moved to Decatur, AL at eighteen years of age to work as an executive secretary at the Decatur Flour Mill and to provide a home for her mother, Ophelia Durham. She married her Fairview High School sweetheart, Allen Clifton Rooks, in 1944. Following the war, they finished schooling in Chicago, Illinois, moved back to Decatur where they established Allen's Optometry practice, and raised their family. A longtime member of Central Baptist Church, Nelle enjoyed many years as committee chair of Central's "House Beautiful". This service combined her dedication to her church and her love of flowers and design.

As a charter member of Trowelers' Garden Club, it was her pleasure to be with fellow gardeners who shared their gardens and their garden wisdom with each other and the community.

Nelle is survived by two children: Ronald Allen Rooks (Billie Marie), and DiAnne Caspers (Bob); four grandchildren: Mikki Davis (Chris) of Tuscaloosa, AL, Annelle Barker (Josh) of Chesterfield, MO, Alan Rooks (Jennifer) of Decatur, AL, Jason Caspers (Laura) of Ft. Hood, TX; and seven great grandchildren: Hawkins, Brennan, and Aislin Davis, Vanessa and Karoline Barker, Sophia Buczacki (Caspers), and Emmy Rooks.

Service will be graveside at 3 PM on Sunday, May 5, 2013 at Decatur Cemetery (Highway 20 entrance) with Reverend Rob Jackson officiating and Shelton Funeral Home directing. A guest book may be signed at SheltonFuneralHome.net. Pallbearers will be Tony Rooks, Hawkins Davis, Steve Mobley, Alan Rooks, Chris Davis, and Josh Barker. Honorary pallbearers will be the members of Sing 'N Strings Ukulele Choir of Central Baptist Church. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to either, The Alabama Eye Bank, UAB, 500 Robert Jemison Road, Birmingham, AL 35209, or Hospice of the Valley in Decatur.

Tribute Wall

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“ *Ronnie, sorry to hear of your mother's passing. Know that you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. Frank and Judy Evans*



Frank and Judy Evans - May 07, 2013 at 12:00 AM

NJ

“ *I have you all in my heart & mind today.*



Nancy Jewell - May 05, 2013 at 12:00 AM