

# The Dedmon Connection

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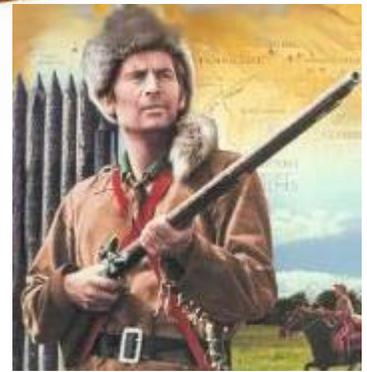
AN ONLINE NEWSLETTER DEDICATED TO THE DEDMON FAMILY WHICH INCLUDES:  
DEADMAN, DEADMON, DEADMOND, DEDMAN, DEDMOND, DEDMONDT



LEROY DEDMON

## DAVY, DAVY CROCKETT KING OF THE WILD FRONTIER

I suppose everyone involved in their search for ancestors are always wondering if there is anyone famous in their family tree. Or at least that was a question in my mind when I began the project over 15 years ago. Famous, of course, is a bit relative, depending on the accomplishment and the beholder. Some famous things or people may not be the same for all. Thus far in my Dedmon family there has been no one considered famous in the FindAgrave.com web site. That does not mean there are none. If you “google” Dedmon, my web page will usually show up near the top, but that is due to the frequency of “hits” to the page, it certainly does not make me famous.



DAVY CROCKETT

There are some sport's figures that appear such as **Lee Dedmon**, who played basketball for the University of North Carolina and professional basketball with the Utah Stars, if memory serves me correctly. **Jeff Dedmon**, played for the Atlanta Braves and Cleveland Indians major league baseball teams. Presently **Dewayne Dedmon**, who has played basketball for the University of Southern California has been drafted into professional basketball by the Philadelphia 76ers. In the political scene, **Andy Dedmon** served as the Democrat House Majority Whip in North Carolina a few years back. **Donald Dedmon** was president of Radford University in Radford, VA and there is a building called **THE DEDMON CENTER** on campus. I visited the campus and when I introduced myself, I was given “royal treatment”. He also was president of Marshall University before going to Radford and some may remember his character in the film, *WE ARE MARSHALL*. In the field of media, **Emmett Dedmon**, was vice president and editorial director of The Chicago Sun-Times and The Chicago Daily News. Also, **Kevin** and **Chad Dedmon** are well known in some religious circles. They are father and son preachers and authors. Of course me and my brother **Bill Dedmon** are known fairly well in the southeast among churches of Christ.

There are several doctors, dentists and other business owners throughout the USA, which I have written about in the past and will again in the future. I have encountered a couple of Dedmon Funeral Homes in researching obituaries, but presently am not able to locate them. For many years the Manchester Funeral Home in Manchester, TN was owned by **Frank** and **Fred Deadman** and was known as the DEADMAN FUNERAL HOME.

Recently, my brother, Tommy, was doing research on the Templeton side of our family and discovered we are related to Davy Crockett, the frontiersman. Our great grandmother, Frances Elizabeth (Lizzie) Greene, married George Leroy Templeton (my namesake). Tracing the Greene family back a few generations found William Green married to Mary Ann Crockett, a cousin to Davy. According to the Family Tree Maker software I am a 3rd cousin 4 times removed. The interesting thing about it is that my grandsons were already related to Davy Crockett through my daughter-in-law as her grandparents were directly related to the Crockett family. My secretary at Springfield, TN for 13 years was Linda Crockett Ballard, a direct descendent of the frontiersman.



After more than 50 years in the pulpit, I have been “forced” to retirement due to my health. I preached my last sermon at the Ooltewah congregation on July 14, 2013. Following the sermon I had a severe attack of vertigo and was transported by ambulance to the emergency room. I had been experiencing such attacks for the past year associated with a hearing loss due to Meniere’s Disease. This created an imbalance and dizziness that required special treatment at the Emory Clinic in Atlanta. After five sessions over a period of two months with “home treatment” and medication, the vertigo has been suppressed. I was also diagnosed with Prostate Cancer in May of 2013, which has required several procedures to keep it controlled. We are now living in Buchanan, GA to be near our daughter. I am much improved and confident I am able to resume some preaching and teaching assignments on a limited basis.

Actually this is about the third time I have retired. The year I turned 65, in 2004, I retired from “full time” preaching and moved to the old home place and cared for my mom until she passed away in 2008. I became the Operations Manager for “*Preaching the Gospel TV*” and “*The Gospel Broadcasting Network*”. In 2010, I “retired” from that responsibility and began preaching again for the church at Ooltewah, TN, until July of 2013.

I preached my first sermon at my home congregation, Chattanooga Valley, in 1958 on a Sunday night. After moving to Huntsville, AL as a draftsman on the Saturn IV project in 1959, I began “making talks” on Sunday night at Paint Rock, AL, which led to other speaking appointments in the area. In February of 1960 I was invited to “fill in” at Gurley, AL until they could find a preacher. After three years, I resigned my job at Redstone Arsenal and continued at Gurley and also at a newly established congregation on nearby Keel Mt. I preached four times each Sunday and taught a Bible class on Wednesday and Thursday night.

In January of 1964 we moved to Cullman, AL to serve as houseparents at the “*Childhaven Children’s Home*”. I also was in charge of publicity, which included the oversight of the mailing of “*Childhaven News*” and speaking at churches all over the state of Alabama. We would load the bus with the children and spend the weekend at various places in the member’s homes.

We only stayed at Childhaven eight months as I wanted to preach “full time” again. In August of 1964 we moved to Manchester, TN, where I preached for the New Union congregation until September of 1968. I was invited to become the preacher at Morrison, TN, which was only about 15 miles away. I preached for both churches from June to September. Morrison had “early” services with preaching at 9:00 and Sunday School at 10:00 AM. So once again I preached four times on Sunday. While at Morrison we became houseparents again at the Sunny Acres Children’s Home.

In January of 1972 we moved to Springfield, TN as I became the preacher for the Main Street Church of Christ. It was here that our children grew up and married and our son, Gary still lives there with his wife, Diane and children, Greg and Jonathan. Jonathan is married and he and Michele are the parents of our great grandson, Brady. I was informed the other day they have another boy “on the way”. That was good news as we need some Dedmon boys to keep the family going.

We left Springfield in September of 1985 and moved to Bremen, GA. During our stay at Bremen, Gwen moved there and in 1991 we opened “*Gwen’s Family Restaurant*”. She has operated the restaurant for more than 22 years. We stayed in Bremen eight years.

In May of 1993, I became the preacher for the church at Woodstock, GA. The church had experienced a “split” the year before and more than half the members had left. This became a challenge to rebuild and during the eleven years they doubled in size and remains a good, strong congregation to this day. In October of 2004, I retired and moved to Ringgold.

As I look back over more than a half century of service to our Lord, I have no regrets. There is no doubt that I would have made more money had I stayed with my profession as a draftsman and would have probably pursued an engineering degree. However, I have been treated quite well by my brethren and can’t complain. I am fortunate to be where I am and have a wonderful daughter to care for me and my faithful companion of almost 55 years, Jane. Our anniversary is April 5th.

I am now worshipping with a small congregation here in Buchanan, GA. We chose it because it is near the house and in the community where we live. I have many friends in other nearby churches and will visit with them as I have the opportunity. My brother, Bill, preaches at Bowdon, GA, which is about 20 miles away and I look forward to being with him some. I have already had some invitations to preach and expect there will be more as I plan to preach as long as I am able to do so.

## THE BRICK WALL



*I have discovered at least five major Deadman branches that we have not been able to connect. If you have information on any of the Deadman family branches, please submit.*

### James Elder Dedmon

*I have known of Elder Dedmon from the beginning of my research project. My parents as well as one of my aunts remember him, but did not know his parents. I received a message from Roger and Cathy Nivens that has caused me to look into him again. The first contact with Roger was on the Dedmon Facebook page on August 24, 2013.*

*“As you may have already have read my cousin and I are looking for on our grandfather. His name was James Elder Dedmon and he was born in GA. I e-mailed and spoke to Leroy Dedmon around 2005, but shortly after my mother became terminal and died in 2006 and things just fell apart for a while. On a vacation my cousin and myself became very interested and we have started on ancestry.com. Can you assist us with anything in this area, if so we might be able to give you more info on more relatives you may have???* Thank you, Cathy Nivens, Benton, Arkansas.

*I received this during the time I was having some health issues and was in the hospital so I sent back a short note: This is Leroy and I will get back with you ASAP send me an email to leroydedmon@gmail.com. My next contact was on a facebook message:*

Her reply: Mr. dedmon, I have started on my ancestry and I just found out that my grandfather was born on Ga. in 1888. My e-mail is messed up right now so this is the only way to communicate right now.

*I replied; I am sorry to have been so long getting back to you. Elder Dedmon was known by my parents and other family members. I have sent word to my Aunt who was married to uncle Paul to see if she knows who his parents were. I only know where he is buried... birth and death date name of wife (I was told he married more than once and one of his wives was related to Aunt Daisy) He had one son that I have record of. Can you give me info from you back to him?*

Her reply: Mr. Dedmon I am getting pics of my grandfathers head stone with the dates that might help with our search sorry I haven't got back before now.



**JAMES ELDER DEDMON WAS BORN IN 1888 AND DIED 1963. HE IS BURIED IN THE FAIRPLAY CEMETERY AT BENTON, AR. HE WAS A VETERAN OF WWI.**

*My reply: I am still searching. I know he lived in Georgia at one time. Not sure if he was born in GA or NC. Many of our ancestors came from NC. Several of my great grandfather's family went to Arkansas, Oklahoma and some on to California. My mother and father talked about Elder Dedmon. I did not know his name was James until I saw it on the headstone. If we could only determine his father we can fit him in the family tree.*

He always told us he was born in GA. My grandparents met and married in Ok. My aunt told me her brother came to visit when she was a girl in Ok. He worked for the railroad and this was in the mid thirties. The picture that is on your web site of the old family store, my mother, before she passed said she thought one pic of a man could have been Elder. It was the young man with a white shirt and a band around his left arm. maybe you can look and it might ring a bell with someone. Thanks again for your time and friendship... Cathy



**JAMES ELDER DEDMON?**

*Here is the picture taken from the one Cathy mentioned. This picture was taken around 1908, which means Elder would have been 20 years old at the time. I am not a good judge of how old one looks in a photograph, but is possible this boy could be 20. There are very few individuals in this photo of whose names I know. This photo was taken on the porch of my grandfather's store. He was born in 1880 and was around 30 at the time. The baby is my uncle James who was born in 1907. His mother, who is holding him was born in 1887, which means she was two years older than Elder.*



## ASHLEY ELLISON AND ROB HEMRICK WED WITH BEAUTIFUL BEACH BACKGROUND SCENERY IN DESTIN. FLORIDA

On April 20, 2013 Ashley Ellison and Rob Hemrick were married in Destin, Florida. About 30 family members and close friends traveled down and stayed in cottages across from the beach where the wedding took place. The wedding took place late in the day with perfect weather. Taylor Price, brother of the bride, furnished the music for the event with his guitar. After the service, everyone gathered at one of the cottages for a reception. The following Saturday, there was a beautiful reception held in Chattanooga for friends and family that were not able to make the trip to Florida.



ASHLEY ELLISON AND ROB HEMRICK EXCHANGE WEDDING VOWS IN THE PRESENCE OF FRIENDS AND FAMILY AT BEAUTIFUL DESTIN, FL, LOCATED ON THE EMERALD COAST.



Ashley and Rob Hemrick united in marriage April 20, 2013

Ashley is the daughter of Ken and Becky Price and Ken is the son of Carolyn Dedmon Price (my sister). The newlywed couple have recently bought a house in Hurricane Creek, which is in the East Brainerd area in Chattanooga. They both are employed at U.S. Xpress Enterprise in Chattanooga, TN.



## DEATH NOTICES

### Earl Sams

GASTONIA- Earl Sams, 86, passed away June 6, 2012, at Alexandria Place, Gastonia. He was born Aug. 2, 1925, in Gaston County, son of the late Cloyd Sams and Illa Dry Sisk.



Mr. Sams was a member of First Wesleyan Church, Bessemer City. He was a US Navy and Coast Guard Veteran.

In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by his wife of 48 years, **Martha Dedmond Sams**; grand-daughter, Ashley Marie Sams; brothers, Terry and Jack Sisk.

He is survived by: sons, Michael S. Sams Sr. and wife, Rachel of Gastonia, Tim Sams of Gastonia, Jimmy Sams and wife, Melody of Dallas, Earl Sams of Gastonia, Perry Sams of Gastonia, Bill Womack of NC; daughters, Jean Dedmond Evans and husband, Butch of Weddington, NC, Pam Wyatt of Gastonia; brothers, Don, Oscar, Larry, Wayne and Clifford Sisk; sisters, Joyce Jones, Gwen Lyman, Elizabeth S. Jones; fourteen grandchildren and twenty great grandchildren.

The funeral service will be 1:30 p.m. Saturday at Greene Funeral Service, West Chapel, 216 Archie Whitesides Road, Gastonia, officiated by the Rev. Dick Whitener. Interment will be at Gaston Memorial Park, Gastonia.

Arrangements are with the West Chapel of Greene Funeral Service and Crematorium.

### James William Carpenter

West Lincoln - James William Carpenter of Cherryville, was a son of the late Emmitt and **Emma Jane Dedmon** Carpenter. He was preceded in death by a brother Emmitt (Junior) Carpenter and a sister, Bessie Carpenter Ray.

A loving and devoted husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, he worked for many years in the Dover and Dora cotton mills in Cherryville, NC. He also worked on the family farm of his beloved father-in-law and mother-in-law, the late Coot & Nanny Williams. After his retirement from the cotton mill, he was able to concentrate on his true love, farming. That farming turned into lots of vegetables which his wife, Ethel sold at the Charlotte Regional Farmers Market. One of the first farmers to participate as the Market started up, Ethel's table carried a sign that read, "Brought to you fresh by William". His specialty was tomatoes. He took pride in growing the best. He was loved by all those who bought his produce.

Interment in Rose Hill Memorial Park, Fallston, NC. Arrangements Stamey Funeral Home, Fallston, NC.

### Virginia B. Dedmon

Obituary: Virginia B. Dedmon, 78, of Fort Smith passed away Saturday, November 30, 2013. She was born December 15, 1934 in Bedford, Iowa, to the late Theron and Minnie Wright. She was a seamstress making many prom dresses and wedding dresses over the years and making many clothes for her grandchildren. She also loved to knit and bake. She was retired from Abrasive Fabrications, Inc. Mrs. Dedmon adored her grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Howard Dedmon. A memorial service will be 2 p.m., Wednesday, December 4, 2013 at Fentress Mortuary Chapel in Fort Smith. Arrangements and cremation are under the direction of Fentress Mortuary of Fort Smith. Mrs. Dedmon is survived by eight children; Kevan Kutter of Farmington, Glenn Kutter and Gene Kutter, both of Van Buren, Randy Dedmon of Lowell, Mike Dedmon of Greenwood, Marty Dedmon of Washburn, Karry Dedmon of Huntington, and Larry Dedmon of Cabot. Mrs. Dedmon is also survived by 15 Grandchildren, and nine Great Grandchildren.

### Mildred Jeanette Womac

Mildred Jeanette Womac, 82, of Ringgold, GA passed away Thursday, January 17, 2013 at her home. She was a member of Parkway Baptist Temple Church and the Easter Sunday School Class. She was preceded in death by her husband, William "Bill" Womac; son, Douglas Nichols; brother, Leonard Murray and parents, Ernest and Roma Jewell Murray. Survivors include her son, Terry Nichols; brother, Charles Murray; grandchildren; great-grandchildren; nieces and nephews. *She was my (Leroy Dedmon) 3rd Cousin through the Templeton family tree:*

Funeral services will be held at 2 PM Sunday at the East Chapel of Chattanooga Funeral Home, 404 South Moore Road with Dr. David Sampson officiating. The family will receive friends from 4-8 PM Saturday at the funeral home.

Burial will be at 10:30 AM Monday at Chattanooga National Cemetery. Honorary pallbearers will be members of the Easter Sunday School Class and the Golden Agers.



### **Louise (Holcombe) Dedmon**

Louise Holcombe Dedmon, age 89, of Harris, NC, died Saturday, November 12, 2011, at Holly Springs Rest Home. Louise was born September 29, 1922, in Spartanburg County, SC, to the late Myer Averell Holcombe and Vada Louise (Sanders) Holcombe. She was

a graduate of Chesnee High School, Converse College and Central Wesleyan College. She was a retired school teacher, having taught in the school districts of Brooklyn, SC, Piney Grove, SC, Harris Elementary and Chase High School. She was the last living Charter member of Harris First Baptist Church, where she attended and served faithfully. She enjoyed reading, cooking and especially loved spending time with her family and church family. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of 46 years, A.F. Dedmon; two brothers, Johnny Holcombe, Billy Holcombe; and by one sister, Odie Holcombe.

Survivors include her son, Alton Dedmon and wife, Patricia of Harris; three grandchildren, Shane Dedmon, Tammy Cline and Adam Dedmon; five great-grandchildren, Brandy Dedmon Mackey, Brandon Dedmon, Katherine Dedmon, Hunter Nix, and Savannah Brigman; and two great-great-grandchildren, Emma Templet and Gabriella Mackey. Funeral services were conducted at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 16, 2011, at Harris First Baptist Church with Reverend George Whitmire and Reverend Landon Rice officiating. Interment followed in the church cemetery. The family received friends from 6:00 until 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 15, 2011, at the funeral home. Memorials were made to the Harris First Baptist Church Building Fund or to Hospice of Rutherford County. Harrelson Funeral Home. *(Published in Spartanburg Herald-Journal on November 16, 2011)*

### **Robert Eugene Friday**

Robert Eugene Friday, age 63 of 1203 Irvin Street, died October 11, 2011 at Carolina Medical Center, Charlotte. Robert was born Oct. 2, 1948 in Cleveland County a son of the late Carl Richard and **Edna Lee Dedmon** Friday. In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by his wife, Betty Sue Buff Friday. Survivors include a step daughter, Deannia Stillion and husband John, of Kings Mountain, two grandchildren and a brother Richard Dean Friday, of Shelby. Funeral services will be held Friday, Oct. 14, 2011 at 11:00 AM at Cone Memorial Chapel of Carpenter's Funeral Home, Cherryville with Rev. Leonard Bumgardner, officiating. Burial will be private. The family will receive friends from 10:00 -10:45 prior to the service.

### **Margaret Jane Dedmon Yarboro**

Margaret Jane Dedmon Yarboro, 84, died Sept. 9, 2012 in Shelby. She passed away to the sound of laughter and love as her husband and five children recounted heart warming memories and her grace and generous spirit. A native of Cleveland



County, she was born in Shelby to Rufus Lee Dedmon and Ollie Mae Self Dedmon on Sept. 28, 1927. In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her sister Leona Dedmon Costner. In March of 1949, she married the love of her life Lewis Gene Yarboro. She was a devoted wife and partner; administering the business affairs of his veterinary practice for 60 years. She was devoted to the health and welfare of her family and was a very proud and nurturing grandmother. She was a gracious host, excellent cook and reveled in hosting gatherings of her family for special occasions and holiday meals. On any day, she was remarkably prepared for unanticipated guests. She brought creative flair to all that she did and had a life-long passion and recognized gift for floral arrangement and design. She was active with the Cleveland Springs Garden Club and known for her award winning exhibitions at the Cleveland County Fair. As a long-time member of the Shelby Community Lions Club, and the Club's first woman president. She was a tireless volunteer and highly visible fundraiser in support of the blind and vision impaired. She took great personal care and received even greater joy from the annual Christmas Party her Lions Club planned and hosted for blind guests and their caregivers; a highlight of the year for all involved. She was also affiliated with the Noel Program for Students with Disabilities at Gardner Webb University. She was an active member of Lafayette Street United Methodist Church for over 60 years. She is survived by her husband, Dr. Gene Yarboro, son Robert Yarboro and wife Kay of Lawndale; son, Ed Yarboro and wife June of Shelby; daughter, Betsy Brantley and husband Alan of Boone; son, Jimmy Yarboro and wife Rita of Shelby and son, Tom and wife Betty of Goldsboro; 12 grandchildren.



### John B. Wagner

John B. Wagner passed away on November 29, 2013, in a local nursing home following an extended illness. He was born on June 9, 1926 in Cooleemee, NC to the late Albert and **Nettie Ann Deadmon** Wagner.

Mr. Wagner was a graduate of Harding University, a veteran of World War II, and retired from Plantation Pipe Line after 38 years of employment. He was well known for his talent in music and art. He taught art lessons free of charge for 10 years at the Bremen Senior Center. He was a member of the Waco Church of Christ. He was preceded in death by his wife of 62 years, Lurlyne R. Wagner, and his parents.

Survivors include his daughter and son in law, Laura and Don Spaller, of Brooks, Georgia; son, Richard Wagner of Bremen; grandchildren Shawn Newman, Sr., of McLean, VA, and Stacy (Brandon) Steed of Duluth, GA; great grandchildren Savannah Newman, Shawn Newman, Jr., Racheal Newman, and Ainsley Steed; sister Betty (Jim) Head of Kannapolis, NC.

Visitation will be held on December 7, 2013, from 1:00-3:00 at Hightower Funeral Home in Bremen. The funeral service will be held at 3:00 at the chapel of Hightower Funeral Home with Minister Jeff Clark officiating. Martin Higley will direct the music. Jimmy Adams, Eddie Bonner, Bill Rainey, Randall Spake, Mike Ballenger, and Jon Spaller will serve as pallbearers. Honorary pallbearers will be retirees of Plantation Pipe Line and the staff of The Oaks Nursing Home. Entombment will follow at Forest Lawn Memorial Park.

*I met John Wagner when I moved to Bremen, GA in 1985 to become the preacher for the Bremen church of Christ. John was the treasurer and had served in that capacity for many years. I did not discover he was related until after I moved to Woodstock, GA in 1993 and began the Dedmon research project. When I called him to confirm his mother was a Deadmon, he said he thought he had mentioned it to me, but if he did I did not remember. He was a kind and gentle person and upon his retirement from the Plantation Pipe Line spent much time around the church building. He began painting as a hobby and hung many of his paintings in the church fellowship hall and also at my daughter's restaurant. He spent several years in the nursing home as his health declined to the point that his wife was not able to care for him at home. However as it turned out she passed away in 2012 almost a year before he did.*



### Jessie Putnam

May 7, 1939-March 21, 2013  
**Bessemer City, NC**  
**Loving Son, Husband,**  
**Father, and Friend**

Jessie Van Putnam, 73, of Bessemer City, went to his eternal home on March 21, 2013. He was born on May 7, 1939, in Cleveland County to the late Arthur Lee and **Corrine Dedmon** Putnam.

Jessie was born and raised in Cleveland County. He graduated from Bethware High School and UNC Chapel Hill School of Pharmacy in 1961. Since 1962 Jessie owned and operated Central Drug Store in Bessemer City. He was a life time participant in civic and religious life in his community. Jessie was an active member of the First Baptist Church in Bessemer City for many years and later Patterson Grove Baptist Church in Kings Mountain. He was a member of the Bessemer City Jaycees and the Bessemer City Lions Club where he held many office positions throughout his tenure. In 1997 Jessie was named Citizen of the year by the Bessemer City Area Chamber of Commerce for outstanding community service. He was currently serving on the advisory board of First National Bank. Jessie was also a founding member of ASPRA. The family would like to extend a special thanks to Dr. Steven Yates and the entire staff at Gaston Hematology and Oncology in Gastonia for their love and support. Their thanks also extend to "Father" Tim Hendrick for his constant love and support.

He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Janice Moore Putnam, his two sons, Andrew and wife Jane Mason Putnam of Jamestown, Robby and wife Melissa Hartis Putnam of Bessemer City; five grandchildren, Jesse Harrison Putnam, Nicholas Van Putnam, Rachel Olivia Putnam, Joshua Lee Putnam, Jordan Rae Putnam; sister, Brenda Bridges and husband Eddie of Mooresboro, NC.

His funeral service will be held at 2:00 pm Sunday at Patterson Grove Baptist Church, Kings Mountain with Rev. Tim Hendrick officiating. Interment will follow at the church cemetery. The family will receive friends after the service in the Family Life Center. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Challenge to Build at Patterson Grove Baptist Church, 301 Oak Grove Road, Kings Mountain, NC 28086

## Nathaniel Dedmond

Nathaniel Dedmond was born on Jan. 23, 1933 in Belhaven, Beaufort County, NC to William Edward and Alice Lina Halsey Dedmond, who preceded him in death. Hed passed away on Nov. 27, 2006 in Pensacola, Escambia County, FL. He was a Veteran of Korean Conflict. He obtained his law degree from North Carolina Central University and was Florida's first appointed black state attorney. He was married to Sybil Marie Jones. *(Extracted from obituary in the Pensacola News Journal; and the Nationwide Gravesite Locator.)*

## Anna Mae Phillips



HOWE-Anna Mae Phillips, 91, of Howe passed away on Saturday, Aug. 17, 2013 in Pocola. She was born on November 15, 1921 in Hodgen to **Sam and Sallie "McDonald" Dedmon**, was a homemaker, treasurer of Howe United Methodist Church, former employee of Lucky Lanes Bowling Alley and a member of the Howe Lioness Club.

Services are Tuesday, at 2 pm at the United Methodist Church of Howe with Keith Thomas officiating. Interment will follow at Oakland Cemetery in Poteau, under the direction of Dowden Funeral Home.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 43 years, Edgar Phillips; a sister, Hazel Eitel; and two brothers, Odell and Dan Dedmon.

### SURVIVORS

- 1 Daughter~ Peggy Holstead & Husband Jim
- 1 Son~ James Phillips & Wife Margie
- 1 Sister~ Tennie Sutton
- 1 Brother~ Ervin Dedmon
- 5 Grandchildren~ Tara Harper and Husband Doug, Jim Bo Holstead and Wife Lynn, Marcey Ford and Husband Rodney, Sarah Woolard and Husband Brian, Matt Phillips and Wife Carol Ann.
- 9 Great Grandchildren~ Gena, Amy, Ian, Alison, Joel, Emily, Dylan, Livi & Tatum
- 1 Great Great Grandchild~ Lucy Jane

**Find A Grave Memorial# 115705903**



## Sybil Marie Jones Dedmond

Sybil Marie Jones Dedmond. 91 was born on Dec. 17, 1921 to Scott C. and Corinne H. Jones. At age 12, Rev. E.S. Shirley confirmed her at St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church. On Sunday, March 24, 2013, the Lord in His infinite wisdom, commissioned the angels to escort our beloved Sybil Dedmond into His presence.

Mrs. Dedmond graduated from Booker T. Washington High School in 1939. She received an undergraduate degree from Howard University in 1944 and a law degree from the University of Chicago Law School in 1950.

In 1951, she became the first black woman to teach full time and attain tenure in an American law school, at North Carolina Central University. She taught criminal, and real estate property law. She was also actively involved in the community of black lawyers and she joined pre-oral arguments for some landmark civil rights cases of the 1950s, most notably Brown v. Board of Education. She left North Carolina Central University in 1964 to return to her hometown of Pensacola, Florida to join her husband in private practice. After some years in private practice and service as a county government administrator, she returned to teaching as a professor at Pensacola Junior College until she retired in 1994. She was a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated and Pensacola Chapter of Links, Inc.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Scott C. and Corinne H. Jones; her husband **Nathaniel Dedmond**; her brother, Scott C. Jones, Jr.; her sisters Corinne Harvey Jones White, Rita Ekia Jones and her niece Rita Brent Hunter.

She is survived by a devoted son, Nathaniel (Renetta) Dedmond, of Pensacola, Florida a nephew William (Gloria) Brent III, of Pensacola, Florida and two great nieces, Margo Hunter Jordan of Raleigh, NC, and Kimberly (Ray) Hunter Cornell of Broadway, NC and a host of other relatives and friends.

Funeral Services will be held on Thursday April 4, 2013 at St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church 500 N. Reus Street at 10:30 a.m. Burial will be in the Barrancas National Cemetery; Pensacola, Escambia County. FL.

*(Published in Pensacola News Journal on April 3, 2013)*

***Through the years I have corresponded with quite a few African-Americans, with the Dedmon surname. Most of them think they received the name from Dedmons who were the owners of slaves during that dark period of American history. While I do not condone slavery, it is a matter of historical record.***