

Asie Lee Rhodes | 1923-2015

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Asie Lee Rhodes

Asie Lee Rhodes, 91, of Fort Worth died Monday, March 2, 2015.

Coker-Hawkins Funeral Home in Decatur is handling arrangements.

Asie Lee was born to Henry and Minnie Stockton Sept. 30, 1923, in Whitesboro. As a child, she and her family moved by covered wagon from Whitesboro to Nubbin Hill, Ark., where she lived a happy and full life with her parents and siblings. She grew up learning the value of hard work on the family farm in Prescott, Ark., where she hoed the garden, picked cotton, helped with the cattle and horses and studied many nights by oil lamp and candlelight. She proved herself as an excellent student, skipping two grades in the small country school in Prescott.

When World War II shattered her peaceful country life, she immediately joined the Corps of Engineers secretarial staff in the Pentagon, working in Washington, D.C., for several years and making friends with other women from across America, including the president's wife, Eleanor Roosevelt.

Mrs. Roosevelt and Asie Lee spent long nights helping with veterans affairs and world leaders' accommodations at the U.S. Embassy, adding their skills to the nation's war

effort. Asie Lee was later transferred to Alaska to help establish the Corps of Engineers office while the Alaska Highway was being constructed.

At the completion of her assignments in Washington and Alaska, Asie Lee moved back home to Prescott where she married her sweetheart, Ivy Ray Rhodes, and they moved to Fort Worth for Ivy to work at Consolidated Aviation. Asie Lee became a homemaker and mother, and not long afterward, they bought her dream home living there for the next 25 years.

She was active in their daughter's activities starting a Girl Scout troop, being a member of the school's PTA board, working actively in the youth activities of their church and staying abreast of political happenings of the day.

Asie Lee also worked tirelessly alongside her husband and his management association members to get the large General Dynamics Recreation Area brought to completion. She later went to work at General Dynamics working as a secretarial clerk on the flight line and then rejoined the Corps of Engineers where she worked until her retirement to care for her husband after his massive stroke.

After her beloved husband's death, she continued to live in their home in Decatur, later moving back to Fort Worth to be near her family where she enjoyed family gatherings and visiting with lifelong friends. Even after her Alzheimer's diagnosis, she continued to be good-natured and kept the nurses of her care facilities entertained with stories of her life and activities.

Asie Lee was preceded in death by husband Ivy Ray; grandson Robert Clay; parents Henry Clay and Minnie Ola Stockton; and brother Wayne.

She is survived by her daughter, Darla Sullivan and husband, Bill; granddaughter Beth Blanchard and husband, William, and their children, Macee, Payton, Douglas, and Ellie Lee (Asie Lee's namesake), all of Fort Worth. She is also survived by her sister, Emma Jane Duke and husband, Dr. James Edward Duke, and their three daughters and children, all of Arkansas.