

Lela Fay Griffis Duck | 1920-2014

Published Saturday, November 22, 2014



Lela Fay Griffis Duck

Lela Fay Griffis Duck, 94, of Chico died Thursday, Nov. 13, 2014, in Bridgeport.

Funeral was Nov. 16 at the First Baptist Church in Chico with the Rev. Sam Caldwell officiating. Burial followed at Pleasant Grove No. 3 Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Rickey Denney, Stan Denney, Michael Duck, Willie Wilson, Dr. Jason Tibbels and Alex Plese.

Lela was born Jan. 25, 1920, at home in Crafton to C.W. “Charley” and Gertie Stockard Griffis. She remembered her parents telling her how everything was covered with ice that day.

“They could hear the galloping hooves of the doctor’s horse on the ice long before he arrived at their home,” she said.

Lela grew up in Crafton and attended school there. She married K.H. “Kinnie” Duck in Decatur Oct. 28, 1942, at Decatur Baptist College.

Lela came to know the Lord Sept. 1, 1952, in Park Springs where she lived and attended Park Springs Baptist Church. She joined the First Baptist Church in Chico on Oct. 5, 1963, and remained a member there. She was a homemaker most of her life, but as a young woman she worked in a florist shop in Lubbock and in the cafeteria at Harris Hospital in Fort Worth. She enjoyed cooking, working in her yard and vegetable garden, and sewing.

Lela was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; sisters Elsie Griffis, Reba Richey, Oleta Bender, Nelba Ruth Culverhouse and Genell Hopkins; brothers Horace and James Carol Griffis; and sister-in-law Leona Duck Powers, who she loved as a sister.

She is survived by her children, Lana and Gary Handshumaker of Alvord, Darla and Danny Hartsell of Bridgeport, Benny and Linda Duck of Bridgeport, and Bobby and Beverly Duck of Decatur; 11 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; 10 great-great-grandchildren; her best friend, Ruby Partin of Chico; and other relatives and friends.