

1920-2015

CHICO: Berniece Wells Bailey, 95, formerly of Grapevine, a retired bank vice president and bank owner, died Tuesday, August 4, 2015 in Decatur.

Berniece was born on February 6, 1920 to Jesse and Llorra (Lindsay) Daniel in Coppell, Texas. She was united in marriage to James Marvin Wells on December 23, 1939 and Elbert (Boose) Bailey on December 16, 1961. She was a Sunday school teacher and served as choir director for 22 years. She held several offices in the Methodist church and served as youth director in the 60's. Berniece was a member of Eastern Star and served as Worthy Matron. She was a lifetime member of Women's Society of Christian Service. Berniece was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award in 2009 and Outstanding Community Service of the Chico Children's Clothing Fund 1970-2000. She served as the Chico Chamber of Commerce Director 1979-1980. Berniece received the Lifetime Service Award for the Chico Chamber of Commerce in 1998. She was a founding member of the Senior Citizens Center of Chico. Berniece worked as Vice President for First State Bank of Chico and served on the board of directors for 26 years until her retirement.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her first husband, James Wells; her second husband, Elbert Bailey; her son, Harold Marvin Wells; her sister, Thelma Conine; her brothers: Grady, Marshall, Roy and J.B.; and her granddaughter, Teresa Williams.

Survivors include her son, Danny Wells and wife, Mononette; her daughter, Cyd Bailey; her daughter-in-law, Dorothy Wells; her grandsons: James Wells and wife, Amanda; Frank Oravetz; her granddaughters: Llorra Jones and husband, Ben; Marla Erickson and husband, Danny; special friend and caregiver, Carandy Guinn; her great grandsons: Kristopher, Eric, Justin and Donny; her great granddaughters: Heather, Makenzi, Hannah, Zoe and Lindsey; five great-great grandchildren; numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and a host of friends.

Funeral service was held at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, August 8, 2015 at Morris Memorial United Methodist Church in Chico with burial 2:00 p.m. Saturday in Grapevine Cemetery.

Rev. Paul Widicus and Rev. Mike Miller officiated. Pallbearers included Larry Madar, Terry Hand, Doug Bowyers, Embry Hines, Toby Sides, Mark Knox and Dusty Sides. Honorary pallbearers included Laura Coble, Janice Smith, Janet Terrell, Rhonda Richey, Mercy Stanfield, Cristy Self, Les Bankhead, Rebecca Blanton, Paul Reasoner, Kelli Dethloff, Shelly Prost and Denise Ellington.

Memorial contributions can be made to Morris Memorial United Methodist Church in Chico 940-644-5186 or the Chico Senior Citizens Center 940-644-5453.

*Hawkins Funeral Home
1909 9th St. • Bridgeport, Tx*

