



Helen Crawford

July 12, 1908 - June 29, 2010

Helen V. Crawford, age 101, of Jacksonville, formerly of Tyler, joined her Lord and Saviour on Tuesday, June 29, 2010. Helen was born July 12, 1908 in Cooper, Texas to James Wesley and Jane Dowdy Crawford. Services will be held Friday, July 2, 2010 at 2:00 PM at Stewart Family Funeral Home with Rev. Dr. Stuart Baskin and Former U.S. Marshal, John Moore, officiating. After graduating Cooper High School and college, she was sworn into the United States Marshals Service in 1934, the second woman in Texas history to do so. During World War II, she and a few other women and men, ineligible for the military, served the Eastern District of USMS, establishing operating procedures where there had been none. Helen was 5 feet tall, but wearing a .38, Smith & Wesson enabled her to search ships in the Texas ports and houses of questionable virtue for enemies of our country who often stowed away. She served when the Marshals service was located in Texarkana, Beaumont and in 1954 moved to Tyler where she continued in the USMS until retirement. After retirement from USMS, Helen served as secretary to Smith County Sheriff Harlon Long for several years. Helen and twin sister, Hinton, loved to travel, especially to Mexico and Canada. She was a Christian, belonging to First Presbyterian in Tyler. She was preceded in death by parents, four sisters and a multitude of friends. Survivors include one niece, Carol Harris and family of Russellville, Arkansas; one nephew, J. B. "Bubba" Coskey and family of Houston; many friends and near-family, including Frances Layne King, care-giver, companion, and advocate; and special care-

giver Pauline Aanab. Honorary pallbearers are Robert Harris, Wesley Harris, Mark R. Layne, John K. Layne. Visitation will be immediately after the service. Burial will follow at Cathedral in the Pines under the direction of Stewart Family Funeral Home. Special thanks for care provided by the staff of Bonner Place Nursing Home, Jacksonville and Heart to Heart Hospice.