



Mary Hellar

December 10, 1921 - June 13, 2008

Services for Mary Jane Hellar, 86, of Tyler will be held on Monday, June 16, 2008 at 10:00 AM at Stewart Family Funeral Home with Rev. Perry Eaton officiating. Burial will be held on Tuesday, June 17, 2008 at 11:00 AM at Maple Grove Cemetery in Wichita, Kansas with Elder Clair Crandall officiating and under the direction of Stewart Family Funeral Home in Tyler. Mrs. Hellar passed away on June 13, 2008 at Hospice of East Texas in Tyler. She was born on December 10, 1921 in Ft. Wayne, Indiana to the late Clarence Burwell and Hazel Leone Miller Derck. She was raised on a farm and spent her early childhood with her mother and grandparents while her father traveled for the Wabash Railroad. She attended Indiana University and went to work for General Electric during World War II. Mary married Martin Wesley Hellar, Jr. in 1949 and they moved to Schenectady, New York. Over the years, they lived in New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Ohio, and Oklahoma before coming to Lake Palestine in October 1989. Mrs. Hellar was a dedicated volunteer at East Texas Medical Center over a ten-year period, where she served almost 25,000 hours in the gift shop, the longest of any volunteer. Mrs. Hellar was very gifted artistically, creating items such as pine cone Christmas wreaths, Kleenex box covers, and beautiful home decorations. In addition to her parents, Mrs. Hellar was preceded in death by a brother, Richard Glenn Derck in 1991. She is survived by her husband of 59 years, Martin Hellar of Tyler. Visitation is scheduled for Sunday, June 15, 2008 from 2:00-4:00 PM at Stewart Family Funeral Home, 7525 Old Jacksonville Highway in Tyler.

Memorials in honor of Mary Jane Hellar may be made to Hospice of East Texas, 4111 University Blvd., Tyler, Texas 75701. For more information or to express condolences, visit www.stewartfamilyfuneral.com.