



Ruth 'Kat' Burns

August 17, 1925 - October 13, 2013

Bynum – “A Celebration of Life” will be held on Wednesday, October 16, 2013 at Bynum Baptist Church in Bynum, for Ruth Kathleen (Kat) Allen Burns. Visitation will be at 11:00 a.m. prior to the Celebration at NOON with graveside service to follow at Eastaboga Cemetery. Kat went home to be with her Lord, Sunday, October 13, 2013. She shared often the past few years that she wanted to see her Savior first of all and then the rest of her dear loved ones that had gone on before. Ruth Kathleen Allen Burns, affectionately known as Kat, was a native of Talladega County but lived most of her life in Calhoun County. After making her profession of faith as a child, she grew up in the Oak Grove Baptist Church, Munford, serving in many organizations and on different committees through her young adulthood. (It was during this time that she met the love of her life, Herbert.) Because of her brilliant mind, she graduated at age 16 with the principal telling her, “Little Allen, you’ve got the world by the tail; there’s nothing that you can’t accomplish.” She finished Alabama Teacher’s College within a year (now University of Montevallo) and finished correspondence courses from Chicago School of Nursing earning an LPN. After graduation, she taught third grade at Eastaboga Elementary school. She was employed three years at the Anniston Ordnance Depot before marrying Herbert Franklin Burns on March 16, 1946. She returned to the depot in 1951 where she worked in various capacities before becoming the Supervisor of the Verification Section’s Administrative Office for 12 years. She was transferred to the Computer Operation Division and retired from the

Anniston Army Depot with 28 years of service. During her retirement years, she was very active as an Approved Special Worker for the Sunday School and Music Departments of the Alabama Baptist State Board of Missions. Her love of children was very evident as she devoted her life to working with children, beginning with her own four children and her special loves-the grand and great grandchildren who she was so very proud of adoring each one for their own uniqueness and giftedness. She worked with and nurtured countless young people through community and church programs, activities and events at Bynum Baptist Church serving as teacher and leader in Sunday School, Training Union, Children's Choir, and Vacation Bible School. She served on several committees. She was an active member of Women on Mission, an organization of Woman's Missionary Union serving as Missions Project Leader. She served with Shelby Parish on the Calhoun County Baptist Association WMU Leadership Team as well as the association's Vacation Bible School Teams and other volunteer positions. She served extensively in local churches and has served with distinction with the Alabama Baptist State Board of Missions, handling childcare at Shocco Springs during major Baptist gatherings. She served as the Preschool Building Coordinator. The retired director of Shocco, Dr. George Ricker, used to call on her quite often for her assistance in serving the "Camps for Children with Special Needs", Senior Adult Retreats, Music Weeks, etc. "She showed so much love for the children that the state leadership considered her a role model in the area of childcare. They brought other children's program workers to Shocco so that they could learn from her," - a quote from Dr. Ricker. The present director of Shocco Springs, Buster Taylor, called on her for different events, but specifically when Shocco hosted the national meeting of Southern Baptist Camps Association. Kat Burns loved her family and friends. There are several close friends that she considered family. Faith, family, friends, fellowship, fun and food described the joys of life for her. Even during the most difficult times of her life, her smile and the mischievous twinkle in her eyes always shined through. Many pastors and missionaries spoke of her smile as they sat down at her

dining room table to eat. "Blessed" best described her life and what a blessing she was to all who knew her. She is survived by her sons Michael Allen Burns, Timothy Brent Burns, her daughter, Kathleen "Kathy" Ann Burns, her daughter in laws Nina Cheryl Polk Burns and Wendy Michelle Freeman Burns. Her grandchildren, Matthew Ryan Burns, Jonathan David Burns, Andrew Stephen Burns and wife Amy Lynn Brannon Burns, Kayla Michelle Burns, Timothy Micah Burns, Noah Jacob Burns, Jonah McKenzie Burns, and Stephen Jeremiah Burns; Her Great-Grandchildren, Luke Tyler Burns, Ashlyn Kate Burns and Asa Brannon Burns, in addition to her favorite nieces, nephews and cousins. Her sister in laws, Christine Allen, Munford, AL., Mary Faye Cochran, Marietta, GA., Christine Paris, Talladega, AL., and Sonja Wimmer, Spencer, IA. and her brother in law, Harold Adams, Oxford, AL. Kat was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Herbert Franklin Burns and her oldest son, Donald Franklin Burns; her parents, John W. Allen and Vollie Sue Allen; her brothers, John Russell Allen, Ralph Edward (Tub) Allen, James Cecil Allen and Leslie Clifton (Boots) Allen; sisters, Margaret Thelma (Sis) White, Jewell Sue Williams and Betty Ann Adams. Pallbearers will be her grandsons & her oldest great grandson. Honorary pallbearers will be the members of Bynum Baptist Church.