

## **Helen Maydene Sanders Lieb**

Helen Maydene Sanders Lieb was born January 8, 1921 in Lubbock, TX. She died Sunday, March 19, 2006, at home in Albany, TX. Services are 2 pm Wednesday, March 22, 2006 at First Christian Church with Reverend Colby Smith officiating. Burial will follow in Albany Cemetery, directed by Godfrey-Neese Funeral Home. She was preceded in death by her husband, Gaither Lieb; her father, Lonnie Sanders; her mother, Excel Stewart; baby sister, Laverne Sanders; her step-father, Milton Stewart; and step-brothers, James Stewart and John Stewart. She is survived by step-brothers, Joe Stewart of Albany and Cecil Stewart of Rio Rancho, NM; and a host of cousins, nephews, and friends. Helen moved with her parents from Lubbock to Albany in 1936. She graduated from Albany High School in 1938 and was in the cast of the very first Fandangle performance and participated in many other Fandangles over the years. She married Fredrick Gaither Lieb on December 21, 1941. They had been married for over 50 years when Gaither died in 1996. Helen and Gaither spent most of their life together in Albany where Helen was an involved member of the community. Helen will be remembered as an elegant lady that was always beautifully groomed and dressed with a marvelous collection of hats. She was well respected as a strong business woman long before women were accepted in business leadership roles. As an owner of the Albany Abstract Company and then the Shackelford County Abstract Company, she worked in the title business for almost 60 years, retiring in 2002. Outside the office, Helen was well known for her community involvement. She was a member of the First Christian Church in Albany. Helen was a past president of the Albany Ex-Student Association. She was a 50 year member of the Eastern Star, Chapter 733, and served as Worthy Matron. She was a member of the Robert Nail Scholarship board of directors for 39 years and was one of its past presidents. She was a member of the Albany Chamber of Commerce's Board of Directors for over 25 years and served as its president from 1974 — 1976, the only female president in the history of the organization. She was a long time member of the Shackelford County Historical Committee and was a docent at the Old Jail Art Center for 24 years. Since retiring in February, 2002, Helen's health had deteriorated. That deterioration accelerated over the last 3 months. She died peacefully of natural causes, going home to be with the Lord, from the home that she and Gaither built in Albany in 1949. What a reunion they will have in heaven... what a hole in the hearts of those of us left here. She will be missed. Left to cherish her memory are her special friends, Scottie Castleberry and Beverly Rogers; her cousins, Billy Ray Brown, Cecil Lail, Lyndal Adams Chaffin, Shannon Chaffin, Merideth Chaffin, Robert Chaffin; her nephews, Carl Hill and wife, Kaye, William Hill and Scot Hill; and wife, Karn. Special thanks to the staff at Home Instead and Hendricks Hospice for the care and compassion they gave Helen in the last months and weeks of her life.

Memorials may be made to the First Christian Church, the Robert Nail Scholarship Fund, the Old Jail Art Center, or Hendrick Hospice.

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