

Ridley

Polk Heritage

remarkable memory of earlier times, and could remember and repeat any Scripture verse. She lived to be 100 years, 3 months, 14 days.

Lurinda is buried beside her husband, in Diamond Grove Cemetery, Jacksonville, IL. Submitted by: David E. Smith, (son of Luther J. Edward Smith) 3415 Surrey Lane, Falls Church, VA 22042.

Sources: Family Bible Sheets of Lurinda Rollins Smith; Census Records; Family- Luther/Ruth Morgan Smith, Vivian D. Smith, Jane Smith Yeremian, Jake/Elizabeth Smith Kindscher, Luther E. Smith Jr., Lucille Kuns, Christine Oppenheimer, Marilyn/Ron German; obituaries and articles - Jacksonville, IL Newspaper and Emporia, KS Gazette.

702 EVELYN NAOMI KEENUM REED

Evelyn Naomi Keenum was born in Ducktown, TN 2/7/1923. She was the oldest of the children of T.C. (Coleman) and Laura Arlington Gaddis Keenum. She had a sister, Doris Eileen Keenum born 9/17/24 and a brother Don Edward Keenum, born 6/10/1930. Her grandparents were James Asbury Keenum (b. 12/15/1861 in Lumpkin County GA and died 1/8/1936 and is buried in Friendship Baptist Cemetery at Suit, NC (Cherokee Co.) and Amy E. Beard Keenum (b. 5/11/1869 near Bryson City, NC and d. 10/2/1939, and is buried in Friendship Baptist Cemetery at Suit, NC (Cherokee Co.) and Amy E. Beard Keenum (b. 5/11/1869 near Bryson City, NC and d. 10/2/1939, and is buried in Friendship Baptist Cemetery at Suit, NC). Her other grandparents were Henry Taylor Gaddis (b. 10/21/1869 in Lumpkin Co. Ga, d. 3/21/1924; buried at Mount Moriah in the Wolf Creek Community in Cherokee Co. in the Gaddis's plot) and Cordelia Rymer Gaddis (b. 4/20/1873, d. 5/6/1922; raised in Buncombe County near Asheville NC; buried in the Gaddis plot next to her husband).



Evelyn K. Reed

Evelyn went to school at Ducktown in the old building. Later all the students were transferred to the Kimsey Guinn College Building which was built for a college but the State of Tennessee didn't allow it to be. So all of the children in Ducktown got to go to this new beautiful school. She graduated from Ducktown. Evelyn was a tough, good athlete. She played basketball on the DHS girls team. Her father never knew she played basketball because the girls wore short pants. Evelyn was good in defending her younger brother who sometimes got into a fight. Usually he lost the fight but he never feared because Evelyn would beat them up. Don't touch her family. She was left-handed and you never saw the fist coming. Evelyn learned well about cooking, housekeeping, etc. Her mother's favorite saying was "Cleanliness is next to Godliness."

Evelyn and Doris got saved at Mine City Baptist Church during a great revival. A preacher by the name of Livingston from Chattanooga

was the evangelist. Her mother, who had been saved earlier, got baptized with the children, but best of all her father got right with God and stayed right until he died.

Evelyn had great friends. Everyone knew everyone. Evelyn took a home course in typing from a school in Chattanooga so she could get a job. She got a job with the TVA at Farner, TN. She later transferred up to Fontana Dam where Doris was working. Later she got approval to transfer to the Bell Bomber Plant in Marietta, GA. Her father had moved to Marietta previously. Evelyn was friendly and always made friends wherever she went. She would still defend her brother even in Marietta if he was run over by the bullies. She bought Don a Victory bike during the war.

One summer Doris and Evelyn went up to Sylva, NC to spend a week with Uncle Ralph and Aunt Addie. Ralph was a pharmacist and introduced her to the love of her life, Kenneth Bryson Reed (b. 1/18/1913) of Sylva NC who lived in the Beta Community. After visits, letters, and I guess phone calls, Kenneth came in from the service (US Army) and they were married 11/21/1943. Kenneth was later sent overseas and fought in the battles of France. God was good and he came back home. After the war with Germany he was discharged. Evelyn moved to Sylva NC and they started house-keeping. Kenneth had a shop where he built cabinets, etc., attached to their house. Kenneth could build anything with wood, especially houses.

Evelyn and Kenneth had a beautiful blond-headed girl, Brenda (b. 7/30/46). She was the smartest child. She was the sunshine to them and later in life she was the strength to help them in bad times, giving support especially during the time her mother got a colon-rectal carcinoma. Evelyn studied about the cancer and had the best doctors and after a four-year fight the Lord took her home to be with Him. During her sickness I never saw so many friends. They came with food, encouragement and anything you wanted or needed they did. She graduated 11/15/1994 from this world to a better world with no sickness or suffering. She got tons of cards and letters and visits from her old classmates at Ducktown High. She was on the prayer list from churches. They prayed for her healing and God healed her and angels took her to where Jesus is. She is buried in Old Field Cemetery, Sylva, NC. She retired from Contel Telephone Co. in 1988 after 37 years of service. She was a member at Scotts Creek Baptist Church in Sylva, NC. She is survived by her husband, Kenneth, her daughter Brenda Reed Sellers and her grandchildren, Angie and Jay Sellers.

The night her body was viewed by friends and neighbors for two hours people came saying she was so helpful to them. She was friendly on the job, taught many people at the telephone company; she was a good servant who wanted to help hurting people. I know when trouble came Kenneth and Evelyn were there with food, clothes, money, whether it was the flood in Copperhill or in the mountains of West Virginia. Submitted by: David L. Keenum, 101 East Main St., Woodstock, GA 30188