



## Lela Mae Bates

August 2, 1925 - February 16, 2011

Lela Mae Bates of Elkmont, Alabama, departed this life on February 16, 2011, at Huntsville Hospital, at the age of 85 years old. She was born in Prospect, Tennessee, on August 2, 1925. She is preceded in death by her loving husband of 56 years, Louis Oliver Bates; her parents, Rupert and Sara Bryant; her sister, Lorene Clem; her brother, Junior Bryant; and an infant daughter, Beverly Joy Bates.

Services for Mrs. Bates are Saturday, February 19, 2011 at Limestone Chapel Funeral Home at 11:00 a.m. Visitation will be Friday, February 18, 2011 from 6:00 until 9:00 p.m. Burial will be in Hodges Cemetery with Steve Ferguson officiating.

She is survived by a son, Mickey Bates and wife Regina of Elkmont; a granddaughter Shane Bates Leopard and her husband Larry, of Athens; a step-granddaughter Kristin Clark Ray of Elkmont; a sister, Becky Harrison and her husband Butler of Prospect, Tennessee; two brothers, Hubert Bryant and his wife Claudine of Glasgow, Kentucky, and Maxi Bryant of Peoria, Illinois. She is also survived by two great-grandchildren, Emily Lauren Leopard and Chandler Alden Leopard.

She was a faithful Christian and worshipped with the Elkmont Church of Christ. She was a devoted mother, grandmother and great-grandmother who loved to help others. She was always a hard-worker and a wonderful cook. She was especially famous for her delicious butter rolls. She will truly be missed by her family and community.

Pallbearers are Stan Bates, Steve Bates, Joe Bates, Larry Clem, Tommy Birdsong, and Terry Birdsong. Honorary pallbearer is Danny Clem.

Please sign our online guestbook at [limestonechapel.com](http://limestonechapel.com)

# Tribute Wall

MB

“ I am so sorry to hear of Aunt Lela's passing. She was a wonderful cook and aunt and made us feel so welcome when we would visit. She will be truly missed.  
Ken and I send our sympathy.

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**Marcia Bryant** - February 18, 2011 at 02:54 PM

RJ

“ We are sorry so for your loss and the community's loss, but so happy that she was such a faithful Christian and that we were able to get to know her if only for a short time. May God bless each of you at this difficult time.

*Roger and Judy Jackson  
Elkmont Church of Christ.*

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**Roger and Judy Jackson** - February 18, 2011 at 01:23 PM

BB

“ So sorry for your loss but grateful for all the good memories you have. Continue making your butter rolls in her memory.... such a legacy you have.  
May God bless your family with His peace.  
Bill and Peggy

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**Bill and Peggy Beasley** - February 17, 2011 at 06:58 PM

HB

“ We loved Lela and will miss her. We appreciated her southern hospitality when we came to Elkmont. She always made us feel welcome and insisted on cooking for us or what ever else we needed when in town. She was a wonderful person.

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**hubert and claudean Bryant** - February 17, 2011 at 06:55 PM