



Estelle Benson

January 24, 2014

Obituary of Estelle Benson

Estelle W Benson, 85, went to be with our Lord on January 24 2014. Estelle was born into a family of 13 children. She was an adventurous young girl and left her birthplace, Bad Ridge Virginia, to make a better life for herself. Estelle believed that hard work and honesty would reap her great benefits. She became a dedicated and persevering business woman and owned and over saw several businesses during her lifetime. A construction business in Riverside CA, an auction business in Leesburg FL, and she owned and operated Estelle's Country Kitchen restaurant in Lady Lake FL for over 20 years. Most recently, 12 years ago along with her husband Earl, she purchased the failing Orange Blossom Opry in Weirsdale FL. Because of her love of music, this not only became a most popular country music venue, but she was able to save the jobs of approximately 12 musicians, singers and staff. Estelle's kind heart was always open to help the less fortunate and she would never turn down a request for help. She will be greatly missed by her many friends, acquaintances and business associates.

Estelle is survived by her loving husband Earl of Summerfield FL, three sons, Harold (Charlotte) Bullhead City AZ, Eric (Kellie) of Tavares FL, and Brian of Summerfield FL. She also leaves behind her most cherished four

grandchildren, Tracy, Cody, Cree, and Melodie and one great grandson, Tyler. Sisters Josephine Bryant of Coeburn VA, Ruby Stanley of Caney Ridge VA, Jacqueline Flemming of Clintwood VA and many nephews and nieces.

A celebration of her life will be held at the Orange Blossom Opry, Weirsdale FL on January 28, 2014, Tuesday evening at 7 PM. A private interment will take place at Lady Lake Cemetery, Lady Lake, FL. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in her name to the Lake Sumter Children's Advocacy Center, 300 S. Canal St., Leesburg, FL 34748 or for credit card donations, phone the Center at 352-323-8303 or go to webpage: www.cac4kids.org

Services

A celebration of her life will be held at the Orange Blossom Opry, Weirsdale FL on January 28, 2014, Tuesday evening at 7 PM.

Interment

A private interment will take place at Lady Lake Cemetery, Lady Lake, FL.

Memorial Donations

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in her name to the Lake Sumter Children's Advocacy Center, 300 S. Canal St., Leesburg, FL 34748 or for credit

card donations, phone the Center at 352-323-8303 or go to webpage: www.cac4kids.org

Tribute Wall

MB

“ *Estelle will truly be missed. She was a fantastic lady, and a wonderful cook. We always enjoyed her big smiles and scrumptious meals backstage. May she rest in peace.*

Mel Tillis & Statesider Band - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TW

“ *Thank you all for your kind words and support during this difficult time for our family. We cherish our memories and we are thankful for the time we had with her. We thank you all. I love you, Mamaw.*

Tracy Wages - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ *Aunt Estelle was a very unique person "one of a kind" hard working, loving, kind and a fun person to be with. She dearly loved her family and she loved music. We have shared so many fun times together over the years, visiting in Ohio, California, Virginia, Tennessee and Florida. We always kept in touch and shared all the news of our family with each other. I will miss talking with her on the phone. Prayers and God's Blessing's to all the family.*

Ami Lea Dotson Fleming - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SA

“ I have known this tenacious lady for 35 years when I first met her at their horse auction barn in Lisbon. But really spent a lot of time in The Cottage Inn, those were very good times... She has always been a very unique "Character" always hard working and successful at what ever she attempted and fiercely loyal to her friends & family. She will be a huge loss to our community and I am so sorry for Earl, her boys and grand children. Prayers to her family both personal and her Opry family. These will be hard times for you but knowing Estelle she would want the show to go on. God Bless Her! I'm sure going to miss her. Susie

Susan Aicher - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ So sorry to hear of your loss. I didn't get to know Estelle that well but appreciate the Opry and the opportunities she provided many singers and musicians and a chance to hear and perform good old country music that I was raised up with.. Our prayers go out to Earl and the family.

Linda and George Clark - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ We are so sorry for the loss of Estelle, every year that we visited the Opry House she made us feel so special. Last year she invited us over her house and we had a great visit. Our prayers go out to Earl and family and may Estelle Rest In Peace, we loved her

Marva and Sonny Mysllak - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CG

“ So sorry to hear. She is irreplaceable and will be missed by many. Our thoughts and prayers are with you Earl and the rest of the family. Earl, If you need a shoulder to lean on give me a call. Chuck

Chuck & Alice Gatecliff - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TT

“ *Heaven has gained another angel. Earl - our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. God Bless!*

Tom & Joanne Thum - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ *To the family: Your mom was a wonderful woman and a very dear friend to me. She was always there to help someone when needed. I know God has another angel and she is singing along with her family members and friends in heaven. When you look at the stars at night look for the brightest one and that will Estelle looking down on you.*

Margaret Stokes - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AW

“ *Eric and Family, My thoughts and prayers are with you during this time. I pray God will give you peace and strength during this time.*

Ame White - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ *Harold, I am thinking of you and your family, and for healing. You are in my prayers..*

Sylvia McMartin - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

FG

“ *She will be surely missed by all whom new her and for all her family and friends of the opry. We have know her since she owned the restaurant. Our sympathy goes out to her husband and family.*

Fran & Ken Gill - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

KS

“ So sorry for your loss. May God Bless each of you!

Kyle & Glenda Stanley - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TC

“ i AM SAD TO HEAR HER PASSING .MY PRAYERS AND
CONDOLENCE GO TO EARL AND FAMILY. VERY SORRY

TONY COPPOLA - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

PF

“ We all send our love and condolences. <3

Patsy, Gary, Peggy, and Allen and families - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ May God be with each of you as you go through this difficult time. I
am sure she was a wonderful wife and Mother. What ever she did
she gave her all. Miss and love Aunt Estelle. Love to all of you.

Joyce Dotson Griffin - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BL

“ I am so sorry for your loss. jw.org

BL - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JT

“ Our prayers and condolences go out to Earl and the entire family.
Estelle was one of a kind .

Jim and Nora Troxell - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ I am saddened by the passing of Estelle. Eleanor,my mom, and her were good friends. I remember going into the resturant many times and eating breakfast. She's sitting at the table now with Big Jim, Willy,Bill and Mom now.

Rebecca Nation Sanford - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BT

“ I am sorry for your loss. Estelle was an awesome lady she always treated me like one of her own and I have some great memories of her. She will be missed.

Bill Tillery - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

FD

“ Aunt Estelle will always have a very special place in my heart. We love and miss her deeply.

Fred and Susan Dotson - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ Estelle was a great mom she Will be missed.

shaw family - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MI

“ Sorry for your loss, take care.

Mike - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CT

“ So sorry to hear of her passing. She was a remarkable lady. I don't think she ever met a stranger, she made everyone feel important. I will never forget her and the love she showed to "Lil Roy", she sure made him feel special. May she rest in peace until we all meet again.

Charlene Trullinger - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

EB

“ Condolences to the family. I visited my aunt, Estelle, several times in Fl. My family and I visited her when she had the restaurant and when she was operating the Opry. I got to know the band and singers, which was like family to Estelle. She loved having great shows and great friends. Most of all she loved her family. I love her and will miss her.

Ellen Bryant - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Her energy would light up a room. I am so sorry for your loss. Am praying for all of you.

Marlene mowl - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ *Estelle Benson*

October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM