



Jessie Ruth Ayres

January 28, 1934 - January 3, 2024

Jessie Ruth (Bryan) Ayres passed away peacefully at home surrounded by all of her family on January 3, 2024, after a courageous fight against cancer.

Family was very important to Jessie. Her parents were farmers in Manchester, TN, where she grew up in a big family. She is survived by her sister Carolyn Keele. After high school Jessie went to Morristown, NJ, where she met her husband George Ayres, Sr. (d. 2020) and worked at the Mennen plant. From there her life took her to various locations in Tennessee and Florida where she raised five children: George Ayres, Jr. (Jennifer), Leona Phillips, Mary Ayres, Charles Ayres (Hilary), and Charlene House. Jessie returned to Manchester, TN, continuing to spend part of the year in North Port, Florida. She is survived by thirteen grandchildren and nine great grandchildren.

Jessie would plant a large garden every year and share its bounty with her family. She loved watching wildlife in the yard, especially turtles and the hummingbirds at the feeders on the porch. She was an avid reader and loved to cook. Jessie will be greatly missed by her family, but they are comforted to know that she is in a better place and that her suffering has ended.

A family celebration is planned for July in Manchester, TN.