

Andelene (Stout) Shanks Obt.

b. 5 October 1935, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN – d. 1 September 2013, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN md 12 January 1952 to **Reginald “Reggie” Roscoe Shanks**, b. 8 July 1932, s/o **Walter Robinson Shanks** (1883-1967) & **Euda Bettie Warren** (1902-1985). Andelene (Stout) Shanks, d/o **Luther Herman Stout** (1907-1980) & **Pearl Carter** (1912-1996).

Andelene Stout Shanks, 77, of Cookeville passed away Sunday, September 1, 2013 at Cookeville Regional Hospital.



She was born October, 5, 1935 in Cookeville to the late Hermon and Pearl Stout. Mrs. Shanks was a member of the Pleasant Grove Methodist Church. She served on the Putnam Co. Fairboard for over 18 years and served as president twice. She also was a member of the Cookeville Civitan, Cookeville Park and Recreation, Director of Summer Arts and Crafts and was Director of the Mountain Dance Competition at the Putnam County Fair for over 30 years.

Her family includes her loving husband of 61 years, Reggie Shanks County Commissioner and retired Police officer, three children, Gina and Paul Hooper of Cookeville, Pam and Tim Thomas of Cookeville, and Penny and Brian Gilliam of Rickman; 8 grandchildren Trina and Johnnie Allison, Chris Weber, Mark and Debbie Thomas, Brandy Minnear and Brian Beachboard, Casey Thomas (all of Cookeville) Austin Gilliam and Jessica Gilliam of Rickman, Kristie and the late Brandon Thomas. 12 great-grandchildren: Tristan, Stacy, Rookie, and Cruz Allison. Leanna Thomas; Maddi Minnear; Laura Durham; Sara Crawford; Josh Holloway; Brittany, Seth, and Kaylee Thomas.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a grandson, Brandon Thomas.

Pallbearers will be Chris Weber, Tristan Allison, Stacy Allison, Rookie Allison, Cruz Allison, Johnnie Allison, Mark Thomas, Casey Thomas, Bryan Beachboard, Austin Gilliam, Wayne Shanks, Lee Chadwell and Jason Robert Smith.

Honorary Pallbearers will be the Past & Present Putnam County Fairboard Members.

Visitation with family will be Tuesday September 3rd, 2013 from 4pm - 8pm at Crest Lawn Funeral Home. Service will be Wed. September 4th, 2013 at 1pm. Also at Crest Lawn Funeral Home. Interment to follow at Crest Lawn Memorial Cemetery.

Officiating Bill Cowan and Johnny Fox.

You may send donations to the Mustard Seed Ranch in Honor of Mrs. Shanks.

You may share thoughts and memories at www.crestlawnmemorial.com

Herald-Citizen, Cookeville, TN: 3 September 2013.

FAIR COMMUNITY MOURNS LOSS OF SHANKS

PUTNAM COUNTY — For nearly four decades, Andelene Shanks has had a hand in Putnam County fair happenings, 18 years of which as a board member.

But now her seat is empty. Her enthusiasm only a memory.

Andelene, who would have been 78 in October, died Sunday at Cookeville Regional Medical Center after a long battle with cancer. Family and friends said their goodbyes in a funeral service this afternoon.

“She’s going to be terribly missed,” fair board president Bill Dyer said. “If there’s anybody who ever really, truly loved the fair, it was Andelene.”

Her daughter, Gina Hooper, could attest to that.

“She loved everything about the fair and the people there,” she said. “Every year, she and Daddy would go every night. Of course, she was over the square dancing competition, and she loved doing that.”

Andelene was married to Putnam County Commissioner Reggie Shanks for 61 years, both of them having had their share of fair board duties through the years.

“She and Reggie have been staunch supporters of the fair as long as I’ve been around,” said Dyer.

Shanks remembers his wife as someone who “loved everybody.”

“She had friends everywhere,” he said. “She loved to go to county commission meetings over the years and was so happy.”

She had also been a member of the Civitan Club and director of summer arts and crafts for Cookeville Parks and Recreation for a time.

But the fair always held a special place in her heart.

“She liked the fair all her life,” Shanks said. “When the kids come on, they all entered things in the fair — 4-H, chickens, ducks and everything. She wanted to help, and everybody enjoyed it.”

Andelene volunteered her time in many ways since that time.

“She’s been involved with the fair at least 40 years,” Shanks said. “She helped a lot with the events.”

But the event Andelene loved most was the old time dance competition — square dancing, clogging and the like. She had been the director for more than 30 years.

“She was definitely the heart of the dance competition,” Dyer said.

The 2013 fair was the first she had missed in all that time, her husband said.

“She was in charge of the dance contest and had everything ready,” Shanks said. “She was expecting to help put it on again but got sick so bad she couldn’t.”

But her children and grandchildren “knew what to do,” he said. And so the show went on.

“She was satisfied,” he said.

Andelene also enjoyed helping with the fair pageants, working with her daughter, Gina, who has been pageant director for eight years. She especially loved the baby pageants.

Gina remembers her mother as a people-person.

“Momma was just one of those people,” she said. “She loved people and loved kidding around. You knew if she gave you a hard time, she really liked you. Now, if she didn’t say much... you knew, too!”

She remembers when cancer entered the picture 20 years ago, then again around five years ago and for the final time this past February.

“We just kept praying she was going to outdo it, but God was ready for her,” Gina said. “She had a good life and loved her grandbabies and little children more than anything.”

Andelene was born Oct. 5, 1935, in the Holladay Community and was married on Jan. 12, 1952.

“She was 16, and I was 19,” Shanks said. “We went to Rossville, Ga., and she was so beautiful.”

The couple had three daughters, Gina, Pam and Penny; nine grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Now that Andelene is gone, it’s “hard to take,” Shanks said.

“We’ve been together everywhere. Where one was, the other was — for 61 years.”

And her loss to the fair board leaves “a big hole to fill,” Dyer said.

“Andelene was just a classy and sweet lady,” he said. “It’s a big loss.”

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OLD TIME DANCE CONTEST STILL GOING STRONG

PUTNAM COUNTY – Even though the founder of the Old Time Dance Championship passed late last year, the show must go on.

All three of Andelene Shanks’ daughters will be taking over the championship this year.

“Penny (Gilliam), my youngest sister, really inspired the championship,” Gina Hooper said. “It all stems from mom and dad’s love of the fair.”

Penny saw an old time dancing championship at another fair and immediately wanted to do the same thing.

“It was in the late 70s that it came to the Putnam County Fair,” Hooper said. “Mom handled everything.”

Last year was different though. Andelene was weak from her battle with cancer and was in a nursing home.

“She begged to come to the fair,” Hooper said. “That was the very first year mom and dad (Reggie) missed the fair.”

The fair is a big part of their lives, beginning from the time Gina was little.

“We always entered livestock and other things in the early years,” Gina recalled.

But the old time dance championships were the most popular event with the Shanks family.

It consists of individual clogging or buck dancing, duo-duet, clogging and open line dance team, team square dancing and Western two step. It’s set for Saturday, Aug. 2, at 7 p.m. on the Bach Porch Stage.

“Everybody of every age gets a chance to participate in the competition,” she said.

The event has brought out people of all ages, with seven age divisions in the clogging/buck dancing category.

“This year, we’re going to make it bigger,” she said. “We’re having a Bluegrass competition and the winner receives \$500.”

That competition takes place prior to the old time dance championship at 4 p.m. on the back porch stage.

Bands may consist of three to six members playing Bluegrass, Old Time or Western Swing music. Each band is given up to 25 minutes to set up, perform and tear down. No electric instruments or pickups, are allowed with the exception of electric bass and steel guitar (lap steel). Each band is to play at least three songs within the 15 minutes – preferably a slow vocal song, and instrumental song and a fast vocal song.

Entry forms are available at www.putnamcountyfair.org.

Herald-Citizen, Cookeville, TN: 27 July 2014

*Read more about the Shanks family at: <http://www.ajlambert.com>