

## **Ruby Lee Smith Walker**

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Ruby Lee Smith Walker (Mrs. Alvin Sr.), 93, a descendant of pioneer families of Pierce County, died early Thursday, April 23, 2009, morning at the home of her son and daughter in law, Pam and Alvin Walker Jr.

Her paternal great-great-grandfather Benjamin James was the namesake for Ben James Primitive Baptist Church. A native of Pierce County, she was born on March 13, 1916 to the late Leroy Smith and Evelyn Davis Smith. She was the oldest child in her family. It snowed in Pierce County the day she was born.

On April 11, 1940, she married Alvin Walker, a 1934 Blackshear High School classmate, at the Blackshear Presbyterian Church manse. He preceded her in death in 1995 after almost 55 years of marriage. Her sisters, Wilene Smith McDonald, Louise Smith Jordan, and her brothers G. A. Smith, and L.C. Smith also preceded her in death.

She received her B.S. Degree in Elementary Education and her Masters Degree from Georgia Southern University in Statesboro. She was a teacher in the Pierce County School system for 33 and half years. She was a member of First Baptist Church, Blackshear where she was a member of the Alert Sunday School class, sang in the JOY choir, and was an active member of the JOY group. She was a member of the Georgia Association of Retired Educators of Pierce County, Farm Bureau, and a charter member of the Pierce County Historical and Genealogical Society.

Survivors are her son and his wife Alvin Walker Jr. and Pamela Proctor Walker; her granddaughter Marlee Walker Bedford (Ross); her grandson Alvin (Trey) Walker III; her two sisters Virginia Jen Smith O'Brien Pierce (Fred) and Joyce Smith Crockett Castell, and many loving nieces and nephews and her faithful companions, Suzanne Roberts and Lillian Walker Lee.

Visitation will take place from 6-8 p.m. Friday, April 24, at the funeral home. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, April 25, from the First Baptist Church. Interment will follow in the Blackshear City Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to First Baptist Church, 670 Main Street, Blackshear, GA 31516 or Hospice Satilla 317 Plant Avenue, Waycross, GA 31501.

The Alert Sunday School Class of First Baptist Church have been ask to serve as honorary pallbearers. They are asked to meet at the church at 1:30 p.m.

Sympathy may be expressed by signing the online register at [www.pearsondial.com](http://www.pearsondial.com). Pearson-Dial Funeral Home of Blackshear is in charge of arrangements.