



## Rubie Lange Swayze

July 13, 1914 - October 17, 2011

Funeral services for Rubie Swayze are scheduled for 3:00 PM Saturday, October 22, 2011 at Phillips & Luckey Funeral Chapel in Rockdale. Rev. David Persons will officiate. Rubie will rest beside her husband in the I.O.O.F. Cemetery in Rockdale. Visitation will be Friday, October 21, 2011 at the funeral home from 5PM to 8PM. Memorials may be made in her name to the Utopia United Methodist Church, Utopia, Texas and Peace Lutheran Church of Rockdale, Texas. Rubie Lange Swayze passed away on October 17, 2011 in Cameron, Texas. She was born in Thorndale, Texas to Fred Lange and Georgia Gooch on July 13, 1914. She married James Graham Urban Swayze in 1933 at the Milam County Courthouse in Cameron, Texas. She is survived by their only child, Patricia Larsen, and her husband Phillip; two grandchildren, Lynn Katherine Larsen of Colorado, James Phillip Larsen and wife Abigail of San Antonio; two great grandchildren, Erik Larsen of San Antonio and Virginia Smith and husband Jason of Colorado; a brother, Robert Key and wife Dale of Sealy, Texas and a sister, Vaughndel Stricker and husband Ralph of Carriere, Mississippi and their families. She is predeceased by her parents and husband and by a sister, Kathleen Lange Fiori and brothers, Lawrence W. Lange and Porter Key; stepbrother, Alton Key. Rubie was raised by her Lange grandparents, Fritz and Albertina Lange in Thorndale. Their children and grandchildren were always an important part of her life as were her husband's Urban relatives. Rubie and James moved from Thorndale to San Antonio in 1943 and retired to Utopia, Texas in 1974. Rubie

cared for many ill persons in her lifetime including relatives, church members, and Eastern Star sisters. She also assisted friends with newborn babies. She was a volunteer at the Lutheran Hospital in San Antonio for many years. She was injured in a car wreck in 1962 and began swimming as therapy at the YWCA in San Antonio. She began with a fear of water and ended up as a member of Margaret Swan's early synchronized swimming group in San Antonio. She then taught her grandchildren how to swim. Rubie was also active in Republican politics as a precinct worker, pollwatcher, and delegate to State Convention. Worthy Matron of her O.E.S. Chapter in Utopia for six terms, she renewed her earlier affiliation with the Harlandale Chapter in San Antonio in recent years. Sharing many years of genealogical research and related travel with her husband and daughter, she was a contributing genealogist to the publication of *The Descendants of the Jersey Settlers, Adams County, MS*. She was a member of the Daniel Coleman Chapter, National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution Georgetown, Texas and was an organizing member of the Stone Bridge Chapter, NSDAR in Sterling, Virginia. Rubie is a member of the Milam County Genealogical Society and her Milam County ancestors bear the names of Lange, Gooch, Penny, Pratt and Story. Rubie and James were members of the Peace Lutheran Church in Rockdale and while living in Utopia, faithfully attended the Utopia United Methodist Church where Rubie was assigned the title "Prayer Warrior." As the best friend and supporter of her husband in all his endeavors over the years, she was his nurse for the last seven years of his life. After his death in 2004, she remained in her rural Sabinal Canyon home until March 2008 when she became a resident of the Wesleyan at Estrella Independent Living Center in Georgetown just a day before its Grand Opening. She continued to walk a mile each day and encouraged other residents to do the same. In June 2009, she suffered a severe stroke and moved to the Rockdale Community Assisted Living facility. When RCAL closed in 2011, she came to the Winnie L. Nursing Facility in Cameron, Texas where she and James were married seventy eight years earlier. Rubie and James were always faithful in visiting relatives in

Milam County and arranged to rest among them.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Rubie Lange Swayze*

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**Nancy Clayton** - October 22, 2011 at 04:40 PM