

BIRTHS

John Andrew Ruckman, Jr.

John Andrew Ruckman, Jr., was born on Sept 29, 2003 at Fort Sanders Park West Hospital, Knoxville, TN. Proud parents are John Andrew Ruckman, Sr. and Kreslyn Faye Jollay Ruckman. John also has a sister at home, Dana Anslie. Even prouder grandparents are Franklin David Ruckman, Sr. and Sylvia Corrine Jamison Ruckman of Westmoreland, TN.

DEATHS

Charles Fotch Ruckman

Charles Fotch Ruckman, 85, of Leivasy, died Sunday, May 2, 2004, at Richwood Community Hospital following a short illness. Born Sept 21, 1918, at Leivasy, he was the son of the late Rev. Andrew C. Ruckman, Sr., and Edna McClung Ruckman. He was a member of New Prospect Baptist Church of Leivasy, a retired coal miner and a member of UMW A. Ruckman was a US Army veteran having served during World War II, with Company F, as a member of the 327 Glider Infantry of the 101st Airborne Division. He participated in the Airborne Invasion of Holland, received a bronze star, and various other medals during his service in the Army.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Luva Amick Ruckman, and by his second wife, Dorothea Lee Ruckman; three sisters and four brothers also preceded him in death. Survivors include four daughters, Betty Tenney of Carl, Linda Ruckman of Richmond Va., Lavina Ruckman of Leivasy, and Mary Weiford of Colorado Springs, Co.; two sons, David Ruckman of Petersburg and Gary Ruckman of Leivasy; one step-sister, Annabelle O'Dell of Leivasy; five grandchildren; two step-grandchildren; four great grandchildren; and four step-great grandchildren.

Services will be Friday, May 7, 2004, at 11 a.m., at the Wallace & Wallace Chapel in Rainelle with Rev. Wilmer Richmond and Rev. Timothy McClung officiating. Burial will follow at McClung Cemetery at Canvas. Friends may call from 6 - 8 p.m. at the funeral home. Arrangements by Wallace & Wallace of Rainelle.

Virginia Othello Rhodes Ratz

Othello Ratz, 84, of Logan, died Wednesday, February 19, 2003. Born June 15, 1919, she was the daughter of the late Roscoe Edward Rhodes and Gertrude Mattie Ruckman Rhodes. Othello was a retired nurse with Logan General Hospital and was a member of Nighbert Memorial Methodist Church. She was a dedicated nurse and was very proud of her many years of service at Logan General Hospital. She also volunteered at Pride and Red Cross blood drives. She was a member of the Nurses Association and the Logan Women's Club. Othello was a fun-loving, compassionate Christian lady who will be greatly missed by family and friends in the last part of her life. She was fortunate to have wonderful caregivers.

Othello was preceded in death by one son, Steven Van Ratz, Jr.; two brothers and one sister. Survivors include her husband, Steven Van Ratz, Sr., one son, Michael E. Ratz, and one daughter, Virginia Gay Wickline.

The service was held at Nighbert Memorial Methodist Church, Logan, with Brian Warden officiating. Burial was in Forest Lawn Cemetery. Collins Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.