ELEANOR MARIE WHITLEY STEWART

Eleanor Marie Whitley Stewart, age 85 of Grand Saline entered her heavenly home on Wednesday, April 7, 2010 in Tyler. Mrs. Stewart was born November 19, 1924 in Dallas, Texas to the late Earl and Annie Whitley. She was a graduate of Woodrow Wilson High School in Dallas and married Gailen Stewart on January 30, 1947. They moved to Crockett, Texas where they raised three children. The family moved to
Grand Saline, Texas in the summer of 1968 where her late husband accepted the position of school principal. She was the secretary. Thus began her many church and civic activities in Grand Saline and Van Zandt County.

Mrs. Stewart was a member of First United Methodist Church of Grand Saline where she taught Sunday School and served as a member of the Methodist Women and Administrative Board. Her civic memberships included Athena Club, Historical Society, Friends of the Library, and Retired Teachers of Van Zandt County. In Athena Clubs she held many offices, but was best known for typing the scripts for many Salt Pageants produced by the club.

Mrs. Stewart helped organize the local Historical Society and worked on the history of Grand Saline for the Van Zandt County publication. The Retired Teachers Association held a special place in her heart since she was her late husband was in the school business all of their lives. She received Van Zandt County Woman of the Year in 1993. Her passions were her God, family, writing, traveling, and playing bridge.

She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, and sister.

Her daughter Carol Ann Davis of Grand Saline; son and daughter-in-law Scott and Miryam Stewart of Fort Worth; grandchildren Glenn Davis of Mineola, Hollie Davis of Austin, Jeremy and Jaclyn Terndrup of Ft. Walton Beach, Fla. and Blake Stewart of Stephenville; sister Lynn and Wayne Laurence of Dallas; nieces, nephews, cousins, and a host of friends survive.

Preceded in death by her husband Gailen Stewart and second husband Richard Hamaker; son Charles Gailen Stewart; brother Edgar Whitley; and sister June Stevens.

Funeral Services for Mrs. Eleanor Marie Whitley Stewart were held Friday, April 9, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church of Grand Saline with the Rev. Dan Gilliam officiating. Interment followed in Woodside Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Blake Stewart, Glen Davis, Andy Laurence, David Whitley, Charles Lay, and Mark Tifford.

Honorary Pallbearers were Edgar Laurence, Gerald Gilbert, John Rash, Murray Means, Dr. Ron Sherbert, Dr. Richard Inney and Wiley Garland.

Memorials may be made to First United Methodist Church, Box 584, Grand Saline, TX 75142 in the charity of one’s choice.

Bartley Funeral Home