



Vivian Jones Richardson

March 20, 1911 - March 25, 2013

VIVIAN JONES RICHARDSON, 102

Vivian Jones Richardson joined her family in heaven on March 25, 2013. She was born on March 20, 1911 in Enon, Louisiana. Visitation will be held from 9:00 until 11:00 on Wednesday, March 27, 2013 at Enon Baptist Church, with the service to follow at 11:00. She will be buried beside her husband in the church cemetery. The service will be conducted by Reverend Pete Williams and Reverend Jeremy Ingram, Interim Pastor of Enon Baptist Church. Pall Bearers for the service will be some of her great –nephews Kevin, Kasey, and Kody Jones, Jeremy Richardson, Brent and Kyle Jones and Frankie Case. Mrs. Richardson was preceded in death by her husband of more than 50 years, Odell; her parents Amazon Mizell Jones and Lorah Jones; her four younger siblings Varnel, Maxine, Voleska and Kyle Jones. She is survived by several nieces and nephews, who love her dearly. They are Pam Penny, Bill Armstrong, Phyllis Panos, Frank Case (deceased), Sandra Nelson, Andy Case, Lionel Jones, Kaylor Jones, Winola Holliday and Kyle Karson Jones (deceased), Joe Richardson, Tammy Richardson, and Pat Denman. Many other friend and relatives from the Enon area mourn her loss. She was “Aunt Vivian” to many.

In her 102 years, she lived through many changes in her rural community and in the world. Her life began on her parents’ small farm before cars, electricity, or even indoor plumbing came to Washington Parish. Through the years, she has passed on so many family “stories” of the hard work and joys of her

growing-up years. One of the most endearing is her remembrance of the end of World War I.

There was a terrible flu epidemic in 1918, and it touched her family. Her mother was just recovering from a bout with the illness, when the family learned that her Mizell grandparents in Rio (near Bogalusa) were suffering, also. Vivian (age 7) and her younger brother were put into the wagon (pulled by two mules) by their parents, and they made the journey to help care for the family. When they arrived, the house was filled with sick relatives and those trying to cook and care for them. One Mizell cousin had already died from the flu in the house, and others were very ill. "Mama" was put to bed on a pallet in the dining room and "Papa" went to work waiting on the sick. A few days later Vivian and her little brother were playing in Grandpa's wagon just outside the back door of the kitchen, when they heard gunshots. The frightened children ran inside. They had heard the adults talking about the war, and they thought the war had come to them! The adults assured them they were safe and told them that people were actually celebrating the end of the war. Not long after, all the Mizell family recovered from the flu and Vivian's family returned to their farm in Enon.

Mrs. Richardson finished school there at Enon and attended Southeastern Louisiana College in Hammond. (She was recently recognized as SLU's oldest graduate.) She began teaching in 1936 and taught mostly second grade for the next 33 years, there in Enon. When she retired, she taught at the new Bowling Green School in Franklinton for five years, from 1969 until 1975, when she retired again. She loved working with children, and often taught them at church, Boy Scouts, Vacation Bible School, etc.

In 1938 she married Odell Richardson, also from Enon, on Christmas Day. They moved into a house about two miles from her parents' home, where she continued to live her entire life. They never raised any children of their own, so they just loved all their nieces and nephews and treated them as their own children.

Mrs. Vivian was always very active in Enon Baptist Church and served her

Lord in many capacities there and in the community. She was a great cook, and her family and friends enjoyed many meals and fellowship around her table. Though she was known as a strict teacher, she was always a kind, soft-spoken, gentle soul to her family. She and "Uncle Odell" created many fond memories for her extended family, as well as many others in the Enon Community.

She will be greatly missed by her nieces and nephews, who have remained close because of the common bond of their beloved "Aunt Vivian".

Obituaries can be viewed online at www.crainfh.com

Tribute Wall

TO

“ I, too, was taught in the second grade by Mrs Vivian. I have thought of her Many times over the years and am sorry that I didn't get to see and talk to her before she passed away. She was a kind and beautiful lady.

Toni Oswald - March 28, 2013 at 10:06 AM

KB

“ Mrs. Vivian was such a wonderful and kind person who was a joy to take care of, she never complained about anything. She will be greatly missed by all.

Kim Barber - March 27, 2013 at 12:24 PM

DF

“ I had the pleasure of meeting Ms. Vivian last fall when I wrote an article about her as the oldest living alumna of Southeastern Louisiana University. I feel privileged to have had that opportunity. Vivian's life was long, happy and full, and she positively influenced the lives of her family, friends and countless students. Truly a lovely lady in all ways!

Dana Fischetti - March 27, 2013 at 10:02 AM

BS

“ Wow. 102. What a beautiful woman. I dimly remember second grade with Miss Vivian but I vividly remember a campout, likely Enon RAs, led by her and Mr. Odell at which her cast iron skillet was used by some of us to fry minnows in the dark of the night. She was not pleased with us. I wonder now if she participated in anymore campouts...

Butler Stringfield - March 26, 2013 at 04:22 PM

JV

“ Miss Vivian, what a wonderful woman. She was sweet and kind to everyone and just loved her students. I was one of those lucky 2nd grade students she taught. I visited her and Mr. Odell when I was a kid. She went all through Enon School with my Uncle Iddo. I remember them making cane syrup down at the stone house at Enon. Heaven received another angel in Miss Vivian. Blessings to your family.

JoBeth Gatewood Valentino - March 26, 2013 at 12:23 PM

NC

“ We will be thinking about your family during this time of loss. I know Ms Vivian will be greatly missed by all.
Nancy and Mark Corkern

Nancy Corkern - March 26, 2013 at 12:03 PM

MM

“ Mrs. Vivian was loved and respected by many and will be missed. She will always be remembered for her faith and service in the Enon community.

Maureen Magee - March 26, 2013 at 11:55 AM

ML

“ TO ALL OF MRS VIVIAN'S RELATIVES I EXTEND MY SYMPATHY.
LOVE MARGUERITE LIPANI

MARGUERITE LIPANI - March 26, 2013 at 11:49 AM