

My Mother, Sunie Sanders Beam, was born in Chester County, South Carolina on March 7, 1891, the second child of Allen Sanders and his wife, ^{Charlotte} Elizabeth Jane Wages Sanders. Their first child having died at birth she was reared an only child in her family. Owing to her Mother's ill health, she was given much care by her father and a deep and abiding love always existed between them.

At the age of seventeen she gave her life to Christ and from then to her death she was a faithful member of Bethlehem Methodist Church in lower Chester County. Truly she loved her church and supported it with her means, her presence, and her prayers. She was a true Christian woman, unassuming, uncomplaining, easy to please, generous so far as her means permitted. She said harm of no one and could usually find something nice to say of every one.

On June 10, 1920 she married Jesse Franklin Beam. Marriage means adjustment for every bride but she being an only child and reared so closely with her parents, and my father being a widower with three sons and two daughters, my Mother's marriage was indeed a new life for her but she met the change as she did all of life calmly, pleasantly, and helpfully and through her untiring efforts family life went on quite smoothly. She was a dutiful wife and loving mother to her stepchildren as well as her own children. Their love for her followed her throughout her life and the ones living and able to be present were there to pay last respect to one who had been kind, gentle, and patient with them.

Her beloved father suffered a stroke at the age of 69 and died shortly after her marriage.

Her first son, Martin Colvin Beam, was born October 23, 1921. Then on November 1, 1922, I, her only daughter, Ada Marie, was born, and on April, 4, 1925, Davis Jones Beam was born.

In spite of the busy family life she lived, my Mother was never too busy to lend a helping hand whenever there was sickness or need in the community and never too tired to prepare and take her children to church. She loved company and enjoyed having relatives and friends in her home and she always graciously

entertained friends of her children.

Her widowed mother lived for a number of years after her father's death in the home of one of her brother's but the last five years of her life were spent with my Mother. She died on April 2, 1944.

My parents took into their love and care and reared a grandson, child of one of her stepsons.

My father had a long illness and she nursed him in the home and her health failed and he had to go to a Nursing Home and she to have hospital care. This separation grieved her but she did not make life miserable for others because of her sorrow. Daddy passed away on November 10, 1961. From that time Mama made her home with me except for extended visits with Davis and family.

Her late years were blessed with nine grandchildren she loved and cherished very much and in her very last years two great grandsons brought joy to her. She loved them very dearly and taught them to call her "Grandma Sue". Her third great grandson was born in the summer of 1972.

She saw beauty in nature. She dwelt upon every kindness shown her for she loved people, and she loved and enjoyed pets. She was appreciative of all beauty and goodness, and was kind and gentle toward all living things.

In the summer of 1964 she suffered a stroke -- she was very ill, but by her patience, courage and cooperation with Drs. and nurses she practically recovered. In 1970 she had surgery. She made a brave fight, never complained and for a time it seemed she would be well again. But the dread killer finally took her away on December 2, 1972.

on Sunday afternoon, December 3, 1972 her funeral was held in Bethlehem Methodist Church by her pastor, the Reverend Larry Jenkins and the Reverend Thompson, pastor of Lebanon Presbyterian Church. It was a beautiful and appropriate service for a gentle servant of God.

We, her children, rise up and call her blessed. All who knew and loved her are better for having known her and poorer by her passing. A noble Christian

woman has gone to her reward. Her earthly remains were laid to rest in the church-yard she loved.

And we can truly say, "She hath done what she could".

"Gracious Saviour in Thy gentle keeping
Leave we now, Thy faithful Servant sleeping."