



Royce Van Dalsem

January 30, 1917 - December 23, 2009

Royce Irene Haydon Van Dalsem, 92, of Perryville, Arkansas, died Wednesday, December 23, 2009. Born in Rocky Gap (Faulkner County), Arkansas, January 30, 1917 to the late Elsie Maude Thompson Haydon and Austin Roy Haydon. She was preceded in death by her husband, William Paul Van Dalsem, her sister, Mildred Haydon Eagle, brother, Robert E. Haydon, and a grandson, David Carter Adams.

Royce graduated from Perry High School and Central College in Conway. She taught school at Crossroads in Pulaski County before her marriage. She and her husband owned and operated the Perry County News, Perry County Telephone Company, Perry County Oil Company, Petit Jean Country Headlight, and farming and other business interests in Perry County. She also enjoyed her antique business, Royce's Relics.

She served the Perryville United Methodist Church in many capacities including trustee, Sunday school teacher, and United Methodist Women chairperson. She was church organist for many years and provided altar flowers each Sunday from her own gardens and/or woodlands. In her later years she was instrumental in initiating and carrying out a breakfast ministry for the youth of the church and community. The UMW awarded her a lifetime Membership.

She participated in numerous activities supporting Perry County. She served as president of the PTA, was Grand Worthy Matron of the Order of the Eastern Star, and for several years provided an anonymous scholarship to a

graduating senior at Perryville High School.

Royce had a love, appreciation and enthusiasm for the natural world, whether feeding wildlife, studying geology, hiking in the woods, or planting and nurturing flowers. She was an artist as well as a talented seamstress, completing fine embroidery work, crocheting afghans and making quilts for her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was an avid reader and enjoyed crossword puzzles and word games.

She is survived by two daughters and a son and their families; Maurine Tarvin and husband Larry of Little Rock, Carol Allen and husband Robert of Perryville, and William Paul Van Dalsem, Jr. of Houston; grandchildren include Keith Allen Tarvin and wife, Mary of Vermillion, Ohio; Michael Scott Tarvin and wife Debbie of Little Rock; Nathan Paul Adams and wife Kate of McKinney, Texas; David Carter Adams' wife Ashley of Austin, Texas; Nancy Elizabeth Van Dalsem of Perryville, and William Pyke Van Dalsem of Gulfport, Mississippi; five great-grandchildren, Haydon Scott Tarvin and Collin Michael Tarvin of Little Rock, Sara Katherine Adams and Abigail Elizabeth Adams of McKinney, Texas, and Lucas Sullivan Belk of Perryville; one sister, Evelyn Haydon Owen of Conway, and nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be 2:00 p.m. Monday, December 28, 2009 at Perryville United Methodist Church. Visitation will be 12:30-2:00 p.m. prior to the service at the Church. Interment will follow at Ragsdale Cemetery by Harris Funeral Home of Morrilton. Memorials may be made to the Perryville United Methodist Church Building Fund, P.O. Box 645, Perryville, Arkansas 72126, or to the charity of one's choice.

Tribute Wall



“ Royce Van Dalsem

January 30, 2023 at 02:08 AM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you in this time of sorrow. Lenore and Catherine Shoults

January 04, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Carol Van--I only remember meeting your mom once and that was when we came over on a Sunday so I could "hitch" a ride back to UofA. I enjoyed so much reading about her--she was definitely my kind of person. I think we would have been great friends. I know you will miss her. I think of you often....

December 30, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Mimi and Carol - you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers during this time. Remember the good memories of your mom and hold them close to your heart. We love you both.

December 28, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Mimi, Carol and Bill. Loved your Mom. We know that it is hard when it is their time, to let them go. Both John and I send our prayers of comfort for you. Heaven will be a little brighter today.

December 28, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Mimi and Carol, Though I sadly never met your mother, she truly sounds like a wonderful and very special woman. Of all the legacies she has left, I believe the fine women you have become is one of the most special. My thoughts and prayers are with your brother as well and with all the extended family.

December 27, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Carol, Bill, Mimi and all. To say she will be missed is an understatement. She and my mom and others made some things happen. GOD bles you and comfort you. Woody & Carol Sellers

December 27, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Your mom certainly lived a great life - all those experiences. I remember how lovingly you always spoke of her and know you have many, many great memories. She is in Heaven celebrating Christmas as only Heaven must know how to celebrate! They probably celebrate Christmas every day. She is taking care of your dad and David and other ones you love and miss. I am thinking of you and hoping the joy you feel for your mom's certain place in Paradise helps ease your hurting.

December 26, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ What a wonderful legacy your mother and Father has left for your. They were wonderful People. They were always there to help my family. when we lived in Perryville. You will be in our prayers as you go thru these difficult times during these next few days ahead. God bless you all.

December 26, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *condolences*

December 26, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *To all the family: Royce was a remarkable lady that I was privileged to call my friend. I know all of your family will miss her but what beautiful memories are left with you. My deepest sympathy. Lee Hearne*

December 26, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Mimi, Carol, Bill, and all the family. Your mom was a wonderful person and was loved by all who knew her. I remember she always came to all the ball games when we played basketball. You are in our prayers during this difficult time. May God give you Peace and Comfort.*

Love Alice and John Spires

December 26, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Mimi, Carol, and Bill, Your Mom was a wonderful person. You will have many Precious Memories of her. I remember when we were in school she was always there helping out. I know she was a wonderful Mom to you. You are in our prayer and I pray that God will Bless and Keep you.*

Jim Williams

December 24, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *To all the family: Royce was a very sweet lady and was so active in the community and her church. She was always at the ball games to see her grandchildren play ball when our kids went to school at Perryville. Just keep all the good memories of her and God will see you through this time of sorrow. I know how you feel as we buried my Dad 30 years ago today. God Bless all of you. Paul & Zoann Hudspeth*

December 24, 2009 at 12:00 AM