CHRISTINE BLACKMON

Christine Blackmon, 43, died June 14, 2012.

Funeral services were Saturday at Word of Faith Christian Center with Rev. Edward C. Taylor officiating. Burial followed at Cypress Garden Cemetery under the direction of Century Funeral Home.

Ms. Blackmon was born Jan. 2, 1969 to Joe Grisham and Ida B. Blackmon. She was adopted at an early age by her late grandfather Fred Blackmon Sr. and late step-grandmother, Betty Blackmon. She was a 1987 graduate of Yazoo City High School and worked as a nursing assistant for many years.

She was preceded in death by her parents; and three brothers, Tony Warren, Fred Blackmon Jr. and Ronnie Cook.

Survivors include a brother, Delanio Grisham of Flora; sisters, Ernestine Blackmon and Dianne Adams, both of Jackson; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Serving as pallbearers were Stanley Fisher, David Starling Jr., Devie Freeman and Raymundus Turner.

Honorary pallbearers were Justin Porter, Bryston Young, Christopher Barnes, Bryan Young, Ruben Hartley and Tyranny Johnson.

CALVIN GRIFFIN

Calvin Griffin, 42, died June 12, 2012.

Funeral services were June 19 at Yazoo City High School with Rev. James Hines officiating. Burial followed at New Bethel Cemetery under the direction of Shaffer & Collins Funeral Home.

Mr. Griffin was born Nov. 1, 1969 in Yazoo City to Vera McGee and the late Jimmy Smith.

He was educated in the Yazoo City public schools and later earned his welding certification from The American College. He worked for the Yazoo City School District and as a security guard for Canton Manor apartments. He was a member of New Bethel M.B. Church, where he served as president of the Usher Board.

Survivors include his mother, Vera McGee (Johnny) of Yazoo City; a son, Darrius Griffin; daughter, Larinda Latosha Griffin; two brothers, Tony Regans of Three Rivers, Mich. and Richard D. Griffin Sr. of Yazoo City; sister, Heather Allen (Charles) of Yazoo City; grandmother, Viola Gray of Yazoo City; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Serving as pallbearers were Gerald Payton, Richard Bass, David Clayton, Mack Gaston, Tony Williams, Joseph Thomas Jr., Dunbar Henry and Levell Fleming.

Honorary pallbearers were the coaching staff of Yazoo City High School.

ELISE SANDERS

Elise Loraine Sanders, 89, died June 12, 2012.

Mrs. Sanders was born April 22, 1923 in Yazoo County to Jessie Scott and Vennie Bell Simmons Scott. She was a member of New Tabernacle M.B. Church.

She was preceded in death by a sister, Jessie Mae; and two sons, Frank Wilson Jr. and Willie Lee Sanders.

Survivors include three daughters, Peggy Ann Forman of Danville, Ill., Vennie Bell Sanders of Yazoo City and Earnestine Jones of Yazoo City; four sons, C.B. Durr of Indianapolis, Jerry Sanders (Matilda) of Seattle, Arthur Sanders (Diane) of Yazoo City and Hilliard Sanders (Pattie)

of Seattle; two brothers, Joe Lee Scott of Yazoo City and J.W Scott of Chicago; 43 grandchildren; 130 great-grandchildren; 41 great-great grandchildren; and a host of other relatives and friends.

ETHEL SMITH

Ethel Lee Smith, 90, died Monday, June 18, 2012 after a battle with cancer.
Funeral services were Saturday at Annointed New Beginning Church in Vaughan with Rev. Benjamin Small officiating. Burial followed at the church cemetery under the direction of Century Funeral Home.
Mrs. Smith was born April 24, 1922 to Eli and Mary Grant. She was a member of Madvernize Baptist Church, where she was in the choir and served on the Mother Board. She was a member of HOJ Madvernize Court 349 for 40 years.
She was preceded in death by her husband of over 60 years, Earl Lee; three brothers, Amos, Zeke and Willie; and three sisters, Menervia, Mary and Elizabeth.
Survivors include her sister, Alean Turnage of Muskegon Heights, Mich. and a host of other relatives and friends.

JANICE VANCLEAVE

Janice Ray VanCleave, 53, died June 21, 2012 in an automobile accident.
Funeral services are today at 2 p.m. at the Stricklin-King Funeral Home Chapel.
Mrs. VanCleave was born April 10, 1959 in Yazoo County. She was a homemaker and a Baptist.
Survivors include two daughters, Tammy Crimm of Yazoo City and Ruthie Horton of Benton; a sister, Elizabeth of Pontotoc; and a brother, Charles Ray of Tupelo.