Velma L. Edwards

Velma L. Edwards, 73, of Irving died Friday, Aug. 1, in Irving.

Born April 21, 1924, in Shotwell, she was a waitress. She was preceded in death by two sons, Danny Edwards and Johnny Soloman.

Survivors include her sons, William Soloman and Ricky Soloman; her sisters and brothers-in-law, Ila and Raleigh Powell of Irving, Brenda and Gene Tyler of Kemp, and Thelma and Marvin Heard of Irving; and her brother and sister-in-law, Robert and Leta Mae Shotwell of Irving.

Services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 6, at Brown’s Memorial Chapel.

AUG 3, 1997
Wanda M. Edwards

Wanda M. Edwards of Irving died July 31 in Denton. She was 67. Born Sept. 12, 1929 in El Dorado, Okla., Mrs. Edwards was a secretary and member of Lake Pointe Baptist Church in Rowlett.

She is survived by daughters and sons-in-law Marlene and Bill Landy and Marilyn and Don Wilson, all of Irving; son and daughter-in-law Mike and Roverta Edwards of Irving; sons Mont Edwards of Cedar Hill, Mark Edwards of Round Rock; sister Jolene Richeson of El Dorado; eight grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Services were held Aug. 2 at Brown's Memorial Funeral Home Chapel, the Rev. Wallace Philpot officiating. Interment at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens. The family requests memorials be made to the American Parkinson Disease Assoc., 8200 Walnut Hill Ln., Dallas, 75231.

AUG 3, 1997
James Earl Elliott

Born Oct. 6, 1953, Mr. Elliot was an auto detailer.

Survivors include his wife, Belinda Elliott; his daughters, Jennifer Solano of Dallas, Jessica De La Torre of Irving, and Felicia Elliott of Dallas; his sons, Steve Elliott of Dallas, Jeremy De La Torre of Dallas, and Marcus Bickham of Dallas; his brothers, Freddie Johnson of Ennis, Moses “PeWee” Moore of Ennis, Robert Roy Elliott of Dallas, Henry Elliott of Streem, and Paul Elliott of Italy; his sisters, Anna Ingram of Corsicana, Dorothy Parker of Corsicana, Florine Robbins of Bardwell, Neline Irvine of Ennis, and Gracie Mae Harris of Fort Worth.

Services were conducted Wednesday, July 16, at Brown’s Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Danta Wright officiating. Burial is in Oak Grove Memorial Gardens.

July 17, 1997
James Earl Elliott


Born Oct. 6, 1953, Mr. Elliott was an auto detailer.

Survivors include his wife, Belinda Elliott; his daughters, Jennifer Solano of Dallas, Jessica De La Torre of Irving, and Felicia Elliott of Dallas; his sons, Steve Elliott of Dallas, Jeremy De La Torre of Dallas, and Marcus Bickham of Dallas; his brothers, Freddie Johnson of Ennis, Moses “PeWee” Moore of Ennis, Robert Roy Elliott of Dallas, Henry Elliott of Streetmen, and Paul Elliott of Italy; his sisters, Anna Ingram of Corsicana, Dorothy Parker of Corsicana, Florine Robbins of Bardwell, Neline Irvine of Ennis, and Gracie Mae Harris of Fort Worth.

Services were conducted Wednesday, July 16, at Brown’s Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Danta Wright officiating. Burial is in Oak Grove Memorial Gardens.

17, July 1997
Cheryle Dean Ellis

Cheryle Dean Ellis, 47, died Monday, Feb. 17, at Columbia Medical Center in Lewisville.

Ms. Ellis was born Feb. 27, 1949, in Paris, Texas. She was a member of the Argyle Methodist Church of Argyle.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Eugene and Leona Cooley.

She is survived by her husband, James R. Ellis; daughter, Jennifer Jo; brother, Dave Cooley; and many family members and friends.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 20, at the Argyle United Methodist Church, with Rev. Daniel Humbert officiating. Interment will follow at the Argyle City Cemetery.

The family requests memorials be sent to the Selwyn School, 3333 University Drive West, Denton, TX 76207.

Local arrangements are with Chism-Smith Funeral Home.

February 20, 1997

P93A
Frances A. Elms

Frances A. Elms, 67, of Irving died Friday, Sept. 5, in Irving.

Born on Oct. 23, 1929, in Jackson County, Ark., she was a homemaker.

Survivors include her husband, E.W. Elms of Irving; her daughters, Carol Prater of Cooper, Marylyn LeFlore of Irving, and Phyllis Hux of Irving; her son, Donny Elms of Cooper; her sisters, Nina Elms of Alvarado, Hazel Akin of Alvarado, Nora Lee Weatherman of Salido, Ark.; eight grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Services will be conducted at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 9, at Brown's Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Jesse Rogers officiating. Burial will be in Cahill Cemetery in Alvarado.

Sept. 7, 1997
Bill Engle

Bill Engle, 70, of Bedford, died Saturday, July 5.

Mr. Engle was born Oct. 11, 1926 in Greenville. He served in the Merchant Marines and the U.S. Army during World War II. He served as an assistant coach at Irving High School.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Dixie Moody Engle and parents, Oscar Elmo and Alberto Engle.

He is survived by his son and daughter-in-law, Tom and Susan Engle of Bedford; grandchildren, Erin Patricia Engle, Julia Nicole Engle, William Thomas Engle III, and Charles Wesley Engle, all of Bedford; and a brother and sister-in-law, Bob and Wanda Engle of Garland.

Funeral services were held Tuesday at First Baptist Church of Colleyville. Interment followed at Blue Bonnet Hills Memorial Park with the Rev. Paul Gomez officiating. Arrangements by Chism-Smith Funeral Home.

July 10, 1997
Former football coach Bill Engle dies at 70

Bill Engle’s love of football took him from the playing field to the sidelines to a hall of fame.

Mr. Engle, who coached at Irving High School and Trinity High School in Euless, died last Saturday of a heart attack at his Bedford home. He was 70.

Funeral services were held Tuesday at First Baptist Church in Colleyville. Burial followed at Bluebonnet Hills Memorial Park.

Mr. Engle was raised in Greenville, Texas, and broke scoring records there as captain of the high school football team. Years later, he was inducted into the school’s sports hall of fame.

After serving in the merchant marine, he attended Texas A&M University, where helettered in football in 1946. He left A&M to serve a tour in the Army but later enrolled at East Texas State University, where he was named an all-conference player.

His coaching career began in 1952, when he was in the Air Force at Sheppard Air Force Base in Wichita Falls, Texas. The next year, he served as an assistant coach at ET-SU. He coached at two other schools before going to Irving in 1961.

The head coach at Irving at the time was Bob Harrell, who had been Mr. Engle’s high school coach in Greenville.

“He was a tremendous player and a natural-born coach. Just tough as a boot, but the kids respected him,” Mr. Harrell said.

Mr. Engle left Irving in 1963 but returned to Euless six years later to coach at Trinity. He enjoyed working with his players and became an important part of their lives off the field, said his son, Tom Engle of Bedford.

“Too many of his players, he was a father. And to others he was a second father,” he said.

He retired from coaching in 1975 but continued to teach classes at Trinity for several years.

In addition to his son, he is survived by a brother, Bob Engle of Garland; a niece; a nephew; and four grandchildren.

July 12, 1997
Naida Wadsworth English

Naida Wadsworth English died Dec. 9. She was 87.

Born in Dallas June 15, 1910, Mrs. English had been an active member of the community since 1932. A charter member of the Irving Hospital Auxiliary, Mrs. English was also a charter member and president of the Irving Garden and Arts Center, a president of the the Irving Garden Club, a member of the Irving Book Review Club, the Irving Heritage Society and a sponsor of the Irving Woman’s Club. She had been a member of the First Presbyterian Church for 60 years.

Mrs. English is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, Neill Jr. and Dorothy English of Irving; brother Dick Wadsworth of Irving; three sisters-in-law; three grandchildren; five great grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

Services are scheduled for 1:30 p.m. Dec. 12 at First Presbyterian Church, the Rev. David Johnson officiating. A private burial service is scheduled for Sparkman-Hillcrest/Northwest Highway. The family will receive friends at the home of Neill English Jr. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials be made to the Irving Healthcare System Foundation, the Irving Healthcare System Auxiliary, or a charity of choice.

Arrangements by Brown’s Memorial Funeral Home.
Memorial honors GTE workers

Colleagues, family members
gather for lasting tribute to
two slain women

By STEPHEN TERRY
News Staff Writer

As a crowd huddled midst
the autumn chill Monday,
employees at GTE planted two
live oak trees to commemorate
the "zest" robbed from the lives
of two local women last summer.

Irving residents Roxanne
Mendoza, 29, and Foluke
Erinkitola, 25, were robbed and fatally shot on Aug.
13 in the parking lot of AMC Grand 24 Theater, in the
10000 block of East Technology Boulevard in north-
west Dallas.

Both young women had moved to the Metroplex
shortly before the incident to work for GTE Corp. in
Irving.

Mendoza, who worked at the GTE Technologies
Solution Center, joined the company in 1993 in San Francisco,
Calif., as a sales representative.

She was promoted to retail sales
manager and relocated to this
area in October 1996. She was an
account executive for wireless
service at the time of her death.

Erinkitola, who was chosen
from among more than 200 can-
didates for a summer internship
at GTE, was in the final year of
pursuing her MBA at the
University of Illinois at Champaign. She supported
the management sales activities for the national-
account group.
**Willie Carl Evans**

Willie Carl Evans, 61, of Grand Prairie, died Friday, March 7, in Irving.

Mr. Evans was born March 15, 1935. He was a cabinet maker for Kraft Co. Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 11, at Morning Star Baptist Church, with Rev. M. Nixon officiating. Interment followed at Southland Memorial Park.

13 March '67

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