

Mrs. Essie Hammett Is 93

Love The Lord, Work Hard Is Her Secret



ENJOYS LIFE AT 93—Mrs. Essie Hammett celebrated her 93rd birthday Sunday with her family and friends at 712 Linwood Road. "Miss Essie" cut a pink decorated birthday cake for church friends who called during the afternoon.

Love the Lord and work hard!

That's Mrs. Essie Hammett's secret for longevity.

The well-known Linwood Road resident celebrated her 93rd birthday Sunday and well-wishers from the community and her church—Grace United Methodist—joined her at 1:30 p.m. for cutting of a pink and white decorated birthday cake.

Mrs. Hammett, who resides with her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. D.M. Hammett, had to retire at age 70 because of falling eyesight but her spryness belies her age. She continues to busy herself at home and her memory and hearing is keen.

"I expect to live to be 100", she told her visitors, including Mrs. J.E. (Beulah) Mauney, Mr. and

Mrs. Plato Heavner, and Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Ellison on Sunday afternoon. Also joining in the celebration were Mrs. Hammett's son, H.P. Hammett of Charleston, S.C. and her grandson, Roy Hammett and Mrs. Hammett, of Kings Mountain.

Born on a farm, eldest of 10 children, Mrs. Hammett

says she knows all about hard work. She helped rear her younger brothers and sisters. She was married over 50 years and has lived most of her married life in Kings Mountain.

"I've done some practical nursing for senior citizens and quite a lot of babysitting in recent years", said Mrs. Ham-

mett. She has a younger sister, age 91, and longevity "runs in the family", according to "Miss Essie."

Mrs. Hammett received some of her favorite gifts—sweet-smelling perfumes and powders on Sunday and Mrs. Emmett Ross, who has been baking a cake for "Miss Essie" for more than 20 years,

decorated a large, tiered cake with pink roses and topped it with a rocking chair. The numerals 93 were reversed to be 39.

"Mama doesn't look and act like she's 93", said her proud son.

And, "Miss Essie" agrees that she doesn't do a lot of rocking in a rocking chair.

"I enjoy life", she says.

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Exhibit Planned

The Third Annual Student Art Exhibit, sponsored by the Shelby Art League, is being held in the Shelby Gallery at the Hotel Charles. Beginning on Monday, March 5, it will be on exhibit until Sunday, March 18. It is open to the public from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. weekdays and from 2 to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

A reception for the artists will be given on March 11 for Shelby Art League members and friends and family of the artist.

Several other upcoming events scheduled by the Art League include a lecture on March 26 by Clement E. Conger, curator of the White House, who will speak on "Masterpieces of Americans in the Diplomatic Reception Rooms"; a lecture on April 22 by Herb Jackson on contemporary art from the artists viewpoint; a Cleveland County artists exhibit on May 18-22; a lecture by Michael Kampens on September 16 on contemporary art from the critics point of view; and the Fifth Annual Juried show on Nov 4-18.

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