

**Thelma Lucille Dinkins Hutchens**, 87, passed away Tuesday, June 29, 2010. Thelma was born August 7, 1922 in Yadkin County to William Masten "Bill" and Winnie Todd Dinkins. Thelma was a graduate of Yadkinville High School and Ideal Secretarial School. During World War II she worked for the National Carbon Plant. She also worked for Veteran's Administration for 19 years and the National Labor Relations Board for 11 years from which she retired. She is preceded in death by her beloved husband of 51 years, James Albert Hutchens, who passed on July 16, 2003; her parents; sister, Pansy Dinkins Wall; brothers, Nelson, Roger and Ace C. Dinkins; nephew, Bobby Dare Wall, Jr., whom she and James reared as their own. She is survived by one brother, Clyde Dinkins; little friend, Reece Walker Matthews and her special feline friend "Sister" who have given their love to her in large measure and will be among those who long for the warm touch of her hands. She is also survived by many loving nieces, nephews, great-nieces and nephews; and special friends: James and Myra Smith, Thomas and Myrtle Smith, Faye Cornelius, C. D. Spillman and Marie James. She was a member of Forbush Baptist Church for 74 years. There she served as Sunday School Teacher for 1st and 2nd graders and G.A. Leader. She was the first Church Librarian and served as Church Secretary for eight years. She, along with husband, James and C.D. Spillman founded a group "The Gad Abouts." They planned and took many trips with the elderly for 23 years. A Centennial History of Forbush Baptist Church, 1876-1976, was written by her husband, James. Thelma assisted him in researching information and gathering photographs for the book. Thelma was a member of Yadkin County Historical Society, Huntsville Historical and Preservation Society, and a Partner in Hope, at St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. Thelma was also a Charter Member, a Life Member and Past Matron of Yadkin Chapter #233, Order of the Eastern Star. After their retirement, Thelma and James enjoyed many years traveling to Hawaii, Canada, Alaska and several trips to Europe. They saw where James had crossed the Rhine River on a pontoon boat during the war, Hitler's bunker, toured Anne Frank's House, and many other interesting places. Thelma will be remembered for her thoughtful acts of kindness, generosity and love for others. Our family will be comforted by Romans 8:28, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose." The family will receive friends from 7-9 p.m. on July 2, 2010 at Gentry Family Funeral Service in Yadkinville. Her Funeral will be conducted at 3 p.m. Saturday at Forbush Baptist Church by the Rev. Ray Davis with participation by Yadkin Chapter #233 Order of the Eastern Star. Memorials may be made to B.D. Wall Scholarship Fund at Surry Community College, 630 S. Main St. Dobson, NC 27017, St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis TN 38105, or Phase I of the Cemetery Fund at Forbush Baptist Church or Charity of the donor's choice. Online condolences may be made at [www.gentryfuneralservice.com](http://www.gentryfuneralservice.com). Gentry Family Funeral Service in Yadkinville is serving the Hutchens family. Published in Winston-Salem Journal on July 2, 2010