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**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**South Central Jurisdiction**

Thirty-sixth Session since Merger of the Gulf Coast and  
Texas Annual Conferences  
One hundred and sixty-fifth since Organization

The Woodlands United Methodist Church

May 29-June 2, 2005

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### Mrs. Joseph Alton (Mary Kate Ross) Jones

Mary Kate Ross was born on August 3, 1912 in Alto, Texas. She was the daughter of Arthur Ross and Almeda (King) Ross. She graduated from Alto Central High and attended Steven F. Austin College in Nacagdoches.

In 1938 she married John D. Bates and they moved to Port Arthur, Texas. John's sister and her husband gave them a lot to build on which was next to their home in Port Arthur. Kate worked at the Gulf and John worked at the Texaco until they retired to Alto in the early 1970's. Kate and John never had any children, but shared the raising of the two children of John's sister, Mable. They saw each

other every day and lived as one big family.

Everyone loved Kate. She was more than an in-law and was always so talented. Kate could sew, knit, needlepoint and do all kinds of crafts. They returned to Alto and lived happily there until John's death in 1985.

Not many people are lucky enough to have one great love, but Kate had two. She and the Reverend Alton Jones married in 1990 and had a wonderful short life together until Alton's death in 1995. Kate gained the daughter she never had in Joyce Jones, who truly enriched her life.

After Alton's death, Kate moved to Pincrest Retirement Community. She was never in good health, but never complained. She fit right in and enjoyed her life there. She died on July 30, 2004 with breast cancer, which she fought for nine years. My husband, Don and I visited her and helped with her care for the last nine and one half years.

Kate is truly missed. I was the little girl that she was such a part of my life all those years, her niece, Alice Guidry Eastman. My brother Phil whistled at her funeral. When she died, we really lost our last ties to our parents and that great love.

Alice Guidry Eastman, Niece



### Mrs. Milton S. (Dorothy Whiteman) Jordan, Sr.

Dorothy Whiteman was born December 12, 1909, in San Antonio, Texas, to Thomas D. and Lella Whiteman. She grew up in Tyler, Waco and Dallas and graduated from Sunset High School, Oak Cliff, Texas. Dorothy attended Baylor University.

On December 21, 1937, she married The Reverend Milton S. Jordan, who preceded her in death in 1980. Together they served the following churches; Teague, First; Pittsburg, First; Baytown, Grace; Houston, Parker Memorial; Jasper, First and Mt. Pleasant, Tension Memorial. Dorothy was an active member of the Wesleyan Service Guild, United Methodist Women in each of their appointments. She was a Sunday school member and leader and

sang in the choir in these congregations. She was active in district and Conference Ministers' Wives groups. She worked as a bookkeeper, clerk and manager in several businesses in Pittsburg, Baytown and Jasper.

After retirement in 1967, she lived in Jasper until 1989 when she moved to Carthage. Dorothy was a member of Carthage First United Methodist Church and participated in the United Methodist Women and the Keen Agers. She died November 9, 2004. The service of Death and Resurrection for Dorothy was held at Carthage First United Methodist Church and burial in the Ryal Family Cemetery, Jasper, Texas, November 12, one month before her 95<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Milton S. Jordan, Jr. and Sarah Jordan Baker



Teague, Wills Point, Tyler, Texas Annual Conference death on September 15, 2004.

Zelma was a spiritual foundation and legacy by believed in the power of writings about "Christ in the world". She is survived by daughter, law, Kent and June Kalb and sister-in-law, Harold, and great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held on September 15, 2004 with John Prestridge at Memorial Park Cemetery



at Southwestern University. She was active in the church at St. Paul's United Methodist Church where she met James L. Jordan in 1956. (They had lots of friends, a broker.) Together, they worked in the family at Soules Chapel in Carthage, Texas in many ways. Their first child was born there, their second child, Bob, has thyroid cancer and was