

Elizabeth B. Banks

Elizabeth Beall Banks, 93, of Rockville died Jan. 17, 2005, at her home.

Born Nov, 28, 1911, in Howard County, she was the daughter of Roland Linthicum Banks and Frances Lucinda Ward.

Ms. Banks attended Teacher's State College in Towson and began her teaching career at the Rockville Academy. She taught in Montgomery County Public Schools for 36 years, first in grade school and later teaching junior high children with special needs.

Ms. Banks retired from teaching to return to her love of farming, taking over the responsibilities of the farm that has been in the family since the mid-1800s. She raised Black Angus cattle until her death. Her love of the land led Ms. Banks and her family to sell Belward Farm at a gift price to Johns Hopkins University to ensure its development as a campus instead of a housing or commercial complex.

Ms. Banks was known as a devoted land advocate and a lifelong member of the Farm Bureau. In her later years, she was often visited by many of her former students. Her love of teaching and education led her to establish a scholarship for medical students through Johns Hopkins University. The Frances Ward Banks Memorial Scholarship was established to assist medical students with their education.

Survivors include one sister, Beulah B. Newell; one brother, Roland L. Banks; and one nephew and nieces.

The family will receive friends from 10 a.m. until services at 11 a.m. Thursday at Pumphrey's Funeral Home, 300 West Montgomery Ave. in Rockville. Burial will be in Oak Grove Cemetery in Howard County.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to American Farmland Trust, 1200 18th St. N.W., Suite 800, Washington, D.C. 20036, or the Frances Ward Banks Memorial Scholarship Fund at Johns Hopkins, 1620 McElderry St., Baltimore, MD 21205-1911.