

The following appeared in the Bath County News on February 12, 1959

Dessie Williams Rites Held Today

Mrs. Dessie Gross Williams, one of Bath County's oldest citizens, died at 5pm Tuesday at the home of her son, Sam Williams, near Lewis Chapel. "Aunt Dessie", as she was affectionately called by all who knew her, was 97 at the time of her death. She had been in declining health for several years but had been seriously ill only a few days prior to her passing.

A life long member of the Church of God, she has spent most of her life in the Lewis Chapel community. She was widely known for her Christian faith, humble, and gentle manner. Up until recent years she was active in church and Sunday school work. She was often seen in the afternoon carrying her lantern in preparation for the return home from night services, sometimes as far as six miles from her home.

Survivors include one daughter, Mrs. Lura Gillaspie, Owingsville, nine sons, Eugene Williams, Bill Williams, Richard Williams, Jim Williams, Bascom Williams, and Sam Williams, Salt Lick; Clay Williams, Middletown, Ohio; Luther Williams, Oklahoma, and Ray Williams, Springfield, Illinois; 42 grandchildren, 53 great-grandchildren and 4 great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted at 1pm today (Thursday) at the Lewis Chapel Church by the Rev. Claude Montgomery. Burial was in the Jones Cemetery at Midland.

Grandsons served as pallbearers.

Funeral arrangements were under the direction of the Powell and Son Funeral Home, Salt Lick.