

Thomas G. Barratt, III, 81

July 28, 1920 - May 27, 2002

IRWIN – Thomas Gale Barratt III was born to Ora Eleda (Thompson) and Thomas W. Barratt July 28, 1920, on a farm in Polk Township. He was baptized at St. Paul's Lutheran Church near Irwin. Thomas was known to friends and family by his middle name, Gale. He attended Polk No. 4 country school known as Danway School for eight years, graduating from Irwin High School in 1937, with the distinction of Salutatorian. Following graduation from high school, Gale continued farming. He first farmed with his father, and then in 1954, became a partner with his brother, Garland. In addition to general farming, he raised Angus cattle. The brothers continued their partnership until Gale's retirement in 1985. For many years he served as a member of the Shelby County Fair Board, and served as Ring Master for the 4-H beef show. He was a member of numerous agriculture organizations, and was associated with Angus cattle all of his life. He was a lifelong member of the Irwin United Methodist Church.

In 1985, he was awarded the "Cattleman of the Year" by the Shelby County Beef Producers, and in 1988, was elected to the Shelby County Fair "Hall of Fame". He died May 27, 2002, at Manilla Manor at age 81 years, nine months and 29 days.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister, Marjorie Greene of Warrenton, VA. He is survived by his sister, Phyllis Thompson of Alta; brother, Garland Barratt (Beverly) of Irwin; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held May 30, 2002, at the Irwin United Methodist Church with Pastor Gayle Wilcox officiating. Burial was in the Oak Hill Cemetery, Irwin, with Russell Petersen, Don Felton and Harry Wetzal honorary casket bearers. Casket bearers were Ed Benson, Richard McMahon, Bill Brue, Donald Johnson, Gene Monson and Steven Barratt. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

