Sammie Lane Thornton

February 6, 1933 ~ September 18, 2013

Sammie Lane Thornton, age 80, died at Mount Olympus Rehabilitation Center in Salt Lake City, UT onWednesday September 18, 2013following a lengthy struggle with heart and kidney disease. Born February 6, 1933 as Sammie Lane Tall, she grew up in Eagle Rock, CA with her 4 siblings. She married Calvin Gifford who preceded her death.They had seven children, two of whom preceded her in death; Christopher Scott Gifford and Stanley Paul Gifford.She later married J. Max Thornton who was beloved by her family. He also preceded her in death.

Sammie Lane served in various callings in the Draper 2nd Ward as well as her Stake. She and Max taught Sunday School to inmates at the Utah State Prison and together they served a mission in England. She loved to attend the temple and served at the Visitor's Center on Temple Square. She also loved giving gifts to children, grandchildren, and friends. She loved the Gospel and her Savior Jesus Christ.

She is survived by her children David Gifford (CO), Helene McElmurray (CA), Carl Gifford (UT), Reid Gifford (CA) and Julie Berry (UT), 15 grandchildren, 10great grandchildren, three younger brothers Thomas Tall (UT) who is serving a mission in Australia, Larry Tall (CA) and Kenneth Tall (CA).

A viewing will held at 9-10:30 am on Saturday, September 21, 2013 at Larkin Sunset Gardens, 1950 East Dimple Dell Road (10600 South) in Sandy. Graveside services will be held at 1:00pm in the Manti Utah City Cemetery. Online condolences welcomed at www.larkincares.com