Her Legacy… Opal Taylor passed restfully from her sleep around 10 AM, December 9, 2008, following an illness complicated by pneumonia and C-Diff. Opal was born on August 1, 1925, in Dora, New Mexico. During her early childhood Opal moved to Texas and became active as a juvenile with a South Western Native American Tribe, literally growing up on the reservation for a few years. Her family moved to Central California to farm and Opal graduated from Kerman High School. At 17 years old, Opal had obtained her commercial trucking license, and was driving processed lumber over the 11 Western States where she met Paul Brooks (owner of a logging company), later to become her first husband. During the war she worked in the shipyards in Richmond, California and was involved with the USO. Following the war she moved back to Central California. She and Paul were married in 1946 after WWII and lived in Fresno initially. They moved to the mountains out of Fresno in the early 1950’s near Pine Ridge, California, had three children (Colette, Boyd, and Yvette Brooks), built a new home and lived there until the late 1960’s when they divorced. Opal then moved to Fresno, began her real estate career, met Dale Taylor, WWII veteran, and they married in 1969 living in Fresno and Pine Ridge until the California Highway Patrol transferred Dale to Oroville where he worked until he retired. They settled in Oroville where Opal began getting actively involved in Butte County Real Estate which she continued until she died over 30 years later. Opal’s real estate career spanned over 35 years. In Oroville, Opal primarily worked for Coldwell Banker and Sierra View Realty and maintained an active license until her passing. She was very active in the local association of Realtors holding many positions including Director 1997, 1998 Committee Chair for Professional Standards; 1997, 1999, 2000 MLS and Professional Standards Chairperson; 1998 MLS Committee 2001, 2002, 2004; Past President 2001; Nominating Committee Chairperson 2002; Honorary Member for Life CAR/NAR 2001; Realtor of the Year 1996; Member of the Parks and Recreation Board. Opal was loved and admired by all her family, friends, and associates in life and the real estate industry, and will be missed greatly by all. She was a treasure, and surely broke the mold.

Her Family… Opal is survived by her daughter Colette and Ken Gooch of Briones, California, son Boyd Brooks and Moon Brooks and grandchildren Michael and Stephanie of Lansing, Kansas, and daughter Yvette Brooks.

Dale Taylor passed away in 1998. Dale and Opal will be reunited in death. Dale’s ashes will be interned with Opal in the coffin when they are buried “Together Forever” on December 29, 2008.

Her Farewell Service …. A Celebration of Life Service will be held on Monday, December 29, 2008 at 11:00 A.M. at Ramsey Funeral Homes at 1175 Robinson Street, Oroville, followed by Interment at Memorial Park Cemetery, 5646 Lincoln Boulevard, Oroville. There will be a reception announcement following the celebration. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the American Lung Association. Please visit www.lungusa.org to view Wall of Remembrance.