J.W. "Bonnie" Allender

September 11, 1939 - July 27, 2017

J. W. "Bonnie" Allender, 77, went home to be with the Lord on Thursday, July 27th after an extended illness.

Bonnie was born in Ocala and came to live in the Fruitland area in 1948. In 1968, after her husband's tour of duty with the Army, she and her husband returned to Fruitland where they owned and operated Allender's Hardware. Along with being a business owner and mother of two boys, Bonnie was also active in her church and community. In 1988 she became involved in local politics and ran for the District 1 County Commissioner's seat, where she was elected and ultimately served two terms. She was the first woman to serve as a Commissioner in Putnam County. Three of her most treasured accomplishments as a County Commissioner were overseeing the new county jail being built; the new Agriculture Center in East Palatka and the building of Citizen's First National Bank in Crescent City where she served as a founding member on the Board of Directors for that bank.

She was preceded in death by her husband Dan in 2015.

Mrs. Allender is survived by her sons, John (Patricia) Allender and Daniel (Bertie) Allender; sister, Anne Bowen; Bonnie said her greatest accomplishment were her grandchildren, John Robert (Maria) Allender, Brandi (John) Williams, Phillips Allender, Daniel Allender and Laura (Kyle) Stellbauer; great grandchildren, Brianna Allender, Micah Allender, Blaine Allender and Kannon Stellbauer

Bonnie's family will welcome guests at the funeral home for visitation from 6:00 – 8:00 PM, Monday, July 31st at the funeral home. Funeral services will be held at 11:00 AM on Tuesday, August 1st at Beulah Baptist Church in Fruitland with Pastor Dan Holland officiating. Burial will follow in Saunder's Family Cemetery also in Fruitland.

Those wishing to sign her online guestbook or leave messages of condolence for her family may do so at biggsfh.com.

Arrangements are under the careful care of Clayton Frank & Biggs Funeral Home, Crescent City, Florida.