

Jessie Block, 87

HARLAN — Jessie Serena Block, daughter of Enoch and Carrie Gunderson Erickson, was born on a farm in Lincoln twp. in Shelby county, on Aug. 5, 1889. She died at the Baptist Memorial Home in Harlan, on May 12, 1977, at age of 87 years, 9 months and 7 days. She attended country school and grew to adulthood on her parent's farm. She attended college in Harlan and taught school in the Harlan vicinity for about ten years. On July 13, 1918, she married Nels Block in Harlan. Four sons were born to this union. After their marriage, Mr and Mrs Block farmed in the Kirkman area until 1936 when they moved into Kirkman. They moved to Harlan in 1940 and after Mr Block's death in 1954, Jessie continued to make her home in Harlan. She worked at the Baptist Memorial Home in Harlan from 1954 to 1966 and in Febr. of 1966 she became a resident there. This has been her home since that time. She was a long time member of the Bethel Baptist church and the Farther Lights Society in Harlan. She was an honorary member of the Merry Homemakers club of Kirkman.

In addition to her husband and her parents, she was preceded in death by a son, Harold; a brother, Edward Erickson; and by three sisters - Elsie, Emma and her twin, Bessie. She is survived by three sons - Nels Block, Jr. of Harlan, Eugene Block of rural Harlan, and Russell Block of Webster City; 12 grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held at Pauley Funeral Home in Harlan on Saturday, May 14, 1977, with Pastor A. B. Neuenschwander, pastor of the Bethel Baptist church in Harlan, officiating. Burial was in the Harlan cemetery, with Don Block, Walt Keast, Gage Brown and Todd Brown serving as honorary casketbearers and Dan Block, Jeff Block, Greg Block, Kurt Block, David Block and Ronald Block serving as casketbearers.