

THE LIFE STORY OF —

## Helen (Mrs Willis) Knudson, 81

**HARLAN** — Mary Helen Knudson, daughter of Calvin J. and Anna Lautrup Harris, was born March 16, 1900, on a farm in Douglas twp., Shelby county. She attended the country school, growing to adulthood on her parent's farm and graduating from Harlan high school in 1917.

On July 10, 1922, she married Willis H. Knudson in Guthrie Center. After their marriage, they made their home in Des Moines, where they lived for the next 56 years. While living in Des Moines, she was employed for several years at the Harris and Emery Department Store, which was later sold and then known as Younkers Department Store. In 1978, they moved to Harlan, where they have lived ever since.

In 1966, Mrs Knudson was baptized at the Immanuel Methodist church in Des Moines, where she was a member until 1978, when they moved to Harlan and transferred their membership to the First United Methodist church of Harlan. She was also a member of the Eastern Star, Hawkeye Chapter No. 358 of Des Moines, serving as secretary for four years. In 1980, she received her Eastern Star 50 year membership pin. Mrs Knudson died at Myrtue Memorial hospital in Harlan on Monday, March 23, 1981, at age 81 years.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by two brothers, Iliff and Jay. Survivors include her husband, Willis of Harlan; nieces and nephews, and other relatives



Funeral services were held at the First United Methodist church in Harlan on Thursday, March 26, 1981 at 2:00 p.m. with Dr. Larry LaVelle, officiating. Burial was in Harlan cemetery with Verne West, Earl Andersen, Roland Hansen, Jerry Andersen, Norman M. Wiig and Calvin J. Harris serving as casketbearers.

Pauley Funeral Home handled the arrangements.