



The late Mrs. Helen Anderson, Harlan, (left) is shown visiting her close friend and former employer, the late Madame Chiang Kai-shek. Mrs. Anderson was Madame Chiang's nurse and companion for nearly two years during the Chinese civil war in 1934-35. Part of her memorabilia associated with this period in her life is on display at the Shelby County Historical Society.

## Helen M. Andersen, 89

Feb. 20-1901 —  
Jan. 11, 1991

**HARLAN** — Helen Marie Andersen, daughter of Simon and Margaret (Christensen) Petersen, was born Feb. 20, 1901 at Fiscus. She died at Baptist Memorial Home in Harlan Jan. 11, 1991, at age 89 years, 10 months and 22 days. She attended high school at Hutchison Academy at Hutchinson, MN., and later the Glendale Academy at Glendale, CA., where she graduated. She then went on to attend nurses training at Madison, WI., graduating in 1922. She then worked as an obstetrics nurse for a doctor in Chicago.

In 1926, she married Harley A. Andersen. After they were married, they traveled to China where they worked as missionaries for nine years. When Harley decided he wanted to become a doctor, he came back to CA., to attend medical school. Since it was during the great depression, she decided to stay in China where she was assured a job and was able to support Harley while he was in school. While she was working in a Chinese hospital, she met Madam Chaing Kai-shek while she was a patient. After

meeting the Madam, she served as her personal companion-nurse for two years. She came back to the U.S. and moved to Madison, WI., when Harley opened his first practice there. He died in 1973 and she returned to live in Iowa during her later years and worked as a nurse at Myrtue Memorial Hospital in Harlan for 8 1/2 years. She became a resident of the Baptist Memorial Home in Feb. 1984. This has been her home since that time. She was a member of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church in Harlan.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by one brother, Christian and one sister, Lillian. She is survived by a step-daughter, Dorothy Mae Cole from CA.; two sisters, Therma (Mrs C.G.) Dollinger of Lodi, CA., and Fern (Mrs Wm.) Hirschhorn of Yountville, CA.; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Jan. 14, 1991 at Pauley Funeral Home with Pastor David Lincoln of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church in Harlan officiating. Burial was in the Jacksonville cemetery with Ron Davis, Don Blakely, Russell Gould, Lyle Petersen, Graham Gould, and Raymond Chipman serving as casketbearers. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.