

Grace Griffith Butler, 95 ✓

Dec. 12, 1898 - Jan. 7, 1994

Sioux City - Grace Griffith Butler, daughter of Robert W. and Nellie (Caddy) Griffith, was born Dec. 12, 1898, in Casey. She graduated from Casey Public Schools, and then taught country school for four years. She then taught first grade in Huxley, for two years before continuing her education at Iowa State Teachers College. After that, she returned to Casey and taught for four and one-half years.

Dec. 12, 1927, she married J. Grove Butler at her parents home in Casey. The couple lived in Springfield, IL and she taught school there for two years. Mr. Butler died March 11, 1931, and the couple's son, Judd Grove, was born six months later. Grace returned to Casey and taught there for another two years, and then moved to Omaha where she taught at Courtland School. She then came to Harlan and taught first grade for 33 years. She retired from teaching in 1967. In May, 1983, she moved to Sioux City to live with her son. In January, 1992, she moved to Countryside Retirement Home in Sioux City. She was a member of the Delphian Sorority, and was active as the park commissioner for the Harlan Summer Recreation Program for 14 years. She worked at the voting polls for many years, and was a long time member of the Congregational United Church of Christ in Harlan. She was a member of the Eastern Star for over 50 years, and was also a member of the Daughters of the Nile. One of her greatest honors was being named Shelby County 1976 Mother of the Year. She died Jan. 7, 1994, at Countryside Retirement Home in Sioux City at age 95 years and 26 days.

Preceding her in death were her parents, her husband, one brother, Robert, and one sister, Thelma. Survivors include one son, Judd Grove Butler of Sioux City; one niece, Beverly Nel Thompson of Yankton, SD; two nephews, William G. Reed of Ft. Worth, TX and Dr. Lynn K. Griffith of Oregon City, OR.

Funeral services were held Jan. 10, 1994 at the Congregational United Church of Christ in Harlan, with Rev. Gary Nienkamp officiating. Honorary casket bearers were Bennett Cullison, Jerry Larson, Jeff Larson, Alan Mores, Beverly Jensen, and Joanne Sanders. Burial was held in Oakwood cemetery, Casey. Burmeister Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.