

Harlan News-Advertiser
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Shoe matriarch Maude Bauer dies

HARLAN -- One of Harlan's oldest businesspersons, Maude Marie Bauer, 100, died Tuesday, March 18 at Myrtue Medical Center in Harlan.

Maude was a long-time owner/operator of Bauer's Shoe Store in Harlan.

Services will be held Saturday, March 22 at 11 a.m. at Pauley Jones Funeral Home in Harlan with burial in the Harlan Cemetery. Visitation is Friday, March 21 from 2-9 p.m. with family greeting friends from 6-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

An Eastern Star Service will be held at 7 p.m. Friday at the fu-



Maude Bauer

neral home. Bauer gained notoriety for her many years of service selling shoes in Harlan. In an article which first appeared in the Harlan Newspapers in 2001, Bauer remembered a time when shoes used to be bartered for potatoes or chickens, or when shoes used to be as cheap as some magazines now bought in the grocery store.

It was 1931, during the Great

Depression, when she began working at Bauer's after marrying store owner Albert Bauer. She sold shoes and helped keep the books for decades, with the store celebrating its 80th year in business two years ago.

She and her only son, Keith, have operated the store together since Albert's death in the late 1950s.

Maude often said working in the store is what kept her going, keeping her mind sharp. She rarely missed work due to injury or illness, and never really gave a thought to retirement.