

## Clara Gettys, 96

March 20, 1900 - May 20, 1996

**Harlan** - Clara Bertha Gettys, daughter of Ralph and Harriet "Addy" Foster Sherman was born March 20, 1900 at Chester Center, near Grinnell. She attended country school, Chester Center High School, and graduated from Grinnell High School, growing to adulthood on the family farm near Chester Center. She then attended Grinnell College for two years.

June 15, 1921 she married Joe L. Gettys at Chester Center. Two sons were born to this union. After their marriage, they moved to Alta where he was a principal and also coached football and basketball for three years. They then moved to Marathon, where he was the Superintendent of Schools. In 1930 he became the Superintendent at Sibley until 1940 when they moved to Harlan. In 1946 he became Superintendent at Atlantic and in 1947 they moved to Oskaloosa where he was the Superintendent. This was their home until 1986, when they returned to Harlan to make their home. After the death of her husband Dec. 7, 1988, she continued to reside in Harlan, and Oct. 10, 1994 became a resident of the Baptist Memorial Home. It was there that she died May 20, 1996 at age 96 years and two months. She was a member of the Congregational Church in Oskaloosa where she sang in the church choir when a resident there, and was also a member of the P.E.O. in Harlan.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by a son, Joe L. Gettys, Jr., who was killed during WW II. She was also preceded in death by her sisters, Almira, Gladys, Selma and infant sister Beulah. She is survived by her son, Gene Gettys (Jan) of Harlan; seven grandchildren, fourteen great grandchildren; one sister Genevieve Hise of Seminole, FL and other relatives.

Graveside services were held May 22, 1996 at Chester cemetery in Grinnell with Rev. C.G. "Gary" Nienkamp officiating. Casket bearers were Gene Gettys, Jr., Tom Gettys, John S. Doonan, Dan Captain, Joe L. Gettys, Jock Gettys, Jason Captain and Tom Murtaugh. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.