

Mabel Christena Johnson, 91 /
Aug. 1, 1915 - May 22, 2007

BELLA VISTA, AR - Mabel Christena Johnson was born Aug. 1, 1915, to Chris and Johanna (Jensen) Swensen in rural Shelby County. She was baptized at Bethel Baptist church in Harlan. She attended country school near the Rabbit Hollow area.

Feb. 26, 1937, Christena married Milo Robert Johnson at Bethel Baptist church in Harlan after meeting two years and two months earlier on a blind date. Two boys and two girls were born to this union: Darrell, Chuck, Kathleen, and Shelly. Christena ran the household, raised her children, and helped her husband when he farmed south of Irwin for a few years. She and Milo moved to Arkansas in 2001. After the death of her husband in 2001, Christena continued to live in Arkansas. When her health started to fail, she lived with her son, Darrell, until she moved to the Highlands Health Care Center where she died



May 22, 2007, at age ninety-one years, nine months, and twenty-one days.

Christena was preceded in death by her parents, Johanna and Chris Swensen, her husband of sixty-three years, Milo Johnson, and her brother Norman Swensen. She is survived by her sons: Darrell Johnson and his wife Lois of Bella Vista, AR and Chuck Johnson of St. Louis Park, MN; her daughters: Kathleen (Bill) Holthues of El Mirage, AZ and Shelly (Kevin) Smith of DePere, WI; her sisters: Violet (Wayne) Fiscus of Kirkman, Mae Heilig of Harlan, Ina Carroll of Jewel, Ethel Dent of Springdale, AR, Joy (Tom) Salmon of Colorado, and Dagney Svendsen of Elk Horn; her brother Donald Swensen of Omaha, NE; fifteen grandchildren; twenty-one great-grandchildren; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held May 26, 2007, at Pauley Jones Funeral Home with Rev. Larry Svendsen officiating. Burial was in the Harlan Cemetery with Rodney Johnson, Casey Bauer, Curtis Johnson, Brian Johnson, Ron Johnson, Bill Holthues, Ryan Smith, Bill Larson, Sean Doyle, Matt Hagen, Eric Smith, and Alec Smith casket bearers.