

Olive Klahn, 94

July 27, 1905 – Nov. 19, 1999

SHELBY – Olive Violet Klahn was born July 27, 1905, at McClelland, daughter of Newel and Birdie Miller Birchard, and was one of three children in the family. During her final years of high school at Underwood, she paid her room and board by working as a telephone operator. She graduated from Underwood High School in 1923 and then continued working as an operator until her marriage.

She married Herman Klahn Oct. 8, 1924. They moved to Treynor, and Herman operated a garage. In 1927, they moved to the country to farm. They farmed at many locations throughout Southwest Iowa. They were the parents of eight children, Howard, Henry, Homer, Fred, Stanley, Dorothy, Rose and Lois. In 1955, they moved into Shelby. October of 1974 they celebrated 50 years of marriage. He died March 18, 1975. She was a member of the Presbyterian Church of Shelby and has served as an Elder along with teaching Sunday School for over 25 years. She was a member of the Rebekah Lodge and had served as Grand Noble of the Lodge. In 1985, she moved into the retirement home in Shelby and lived there until February of 1999, when she became a resident of the Avoca Nursing and Rehab Center. She died Nov. 19, 1999, at the Avoca Nursing and Rehab Center at age 94 years, three months and 23 days.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Herman; a son, Henry; a brother, Earl; and her sister, Vera Sandeen. She is survived by her seven children, Howard (Irene) of Carroll; Homer (Sharon) of Fort Collins, CO; Fred (Peggy) of Shelby; Stanley (Terri) of Windsor, CO; Dorothy (Tip) Donaldson of Huntington Beach, CA; Rose Shurts of Omaha, NE and Lois Edmondson of Aurora, CO; 22 grandchildren, 28 great grandchildren, two great great grandchildren and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Nov. 22, 1999, at the Shelby Presbyterian Church with Rev. Will Bynagte officiating. Burial was in the Shelby Cemetery. Casket bearers were Bruce Klahn, Doug Klahn, Steve Klahn, Dustin Kirkhart, John Klahn and Mike Shurts. Knutson Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.