

Clara Petersen, 85

HARLAN - Clara Mae Petersen, the daughter of Chris and Anna (Jensen) Mellerup, was born on a farm near Irwin on May 15, 1904. She died at Myrtue Memorial Hospital in Harlan, Aug. 19, 1989 at age 85 years, three months and four days.

She graduated from Irwin High School in 1922, taught in rural schools near there, and later attended Iowa State Teachers College at Cedar Falls. In 1939, she attended Thompson Beauty School in Des Moines. After working in several shops, she purchased a location in Irwin and established a shop there in 1945.

On Dec. 21, 1958, she married Iloff J. Petersen at Culbertson, NE. They lived on a farm near Portsmouth until 1962 when they moved to Harlan. After the death of Iloff on Sept. 12, 1984, she continued to reside in Harlan. She was a member of First United Methodist Church in Harlan, Wesleyan Circle, Pioneer Club, Shelby County Garden Club and Myrtue Memorial Hospital Auxiliary.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by four sisters, Olga Sinkey, Gladys Thompson, Pearl Cronin and Elaine Vollmer; and four brothers, Carl Mellerup, David Mellerup, John Peter Mellerup and Ray Mellerup. She is survived by two sisters, Myrtle Ash of Walnut, CA.; and Dee Van Winkle of McKinleyville, CA.; a stepson Donald of Shelby; three step-grandchildren; five step-great-grandchildren; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, Aug. 22, 1989 at Pauley Funeral Home with Rev. D. Stephen Clinton of First United Methodist Church in Harlan, officiating. Burial will be at a later date in the Harlan cemetery. 14