

Clara Miriam Trout, 89

Oct. 4, 1904 - Aug. 2, 1994

Avoca - Clara Miriam Trout was born near Guthrie, OK Oct. 4, 1904. She was the daughter of Gottlieb and Louise Pot Gertsch and was one of six children in the family. She grew up on a farm near Runnels and graduated from Runnels High School in 1922. She then attended Iowa State University and graduated in 1926 with a degree in Home Economics. She taught school for two years and then worked for the Iowa Banker's Association in Des Moines.

She married Joseph P. Trout Oct. 9, 1932 in Des Moines. They were the parents of one son, Jerome. They purchased a small general store in Avoca and renamed it the Dime to Dollar Store. They operated the store until 1972, when his failing health forced him to retire. She worked in the store until 1950 when she decided to return to teaching. She taught Home Economics at Oakland High School from 1959 to 1971. He died July 1975. She was a member of the St. Mary's Catholic Church in Avoca and a past president of the American Legion Auxiliary. She lived in her home in Avoca until 1984. She then lived in Des Moines for a short time and has been a resident of the Baptist Memorial Home in Harlan since 1992. She died at the Baptist Home Aug. 2, 1994 at age 89 years, 9 months and 29 days.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Joseph and her five sisters. She is survived by her son, Dr. Jerome "Jerry" Trout of Chicago, IL, nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Aug. 4, 1994 at the St. Mary's Catholic Church,, Avoca with Fr. James Polich officiating. Burial was in the Rest Haven cemetery, Des Moines. Casket bearers were: William Trout, Roger Gass, Charles Ronnfeldt, Patrick Trout, Dennis Langer and Douglas Brown. Knutson Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.