

Ruth M. Halvorsen, 76

HARLAN — Ruth Marion Halvorsen, daughter of Nels Peter and Frederica (Matson) Peterson was born on Nov. 16, 1910, on the family farm four miles west of Goldfield. She died on Aug. 8, 1987, at the Baptist Memoria Home in Harlan at age 76 years, eight months and 23 days. She attended country school near Goldfield for her first eight grades and in 1928, she graduated from Goldfield high school.

On Nov. 9, 1929, she married Philip R. Halvorsen at the home of her parents. Three children were born to this union. In Jan. of 1956, she enrolled in Eagle Grove Jr. College, from which she graduated in 1958. She taught in the Eagle Grove Community School from the fall of 1958 to the spring of 1970. Pastor and Mrs Halvorsen have served churches in Kasson, MN; Gary, IN; Bremen, IN; Omaha, NE and Holmes, IA. They moved to Harlan in 1986, and became residents of the Baptist Memorial Home in May of 1986. This has been their home since that time. She was a member of the Holmes Baptist church in Holmes and also a lifetime member of the Iowa State Education Association and also the National Education Association.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by two brothers, Elmer and Lawrence Peterson. She is survived by her husband, Rev. Philip R. Halvorsen of the Baptist Memorial Home in Harlan; two sons, Robert D. of Augusta, GA; and James R. of Des Moines; and a daughter, Sharon (Pastor David) Hess of Harlan; 16 grandchildren, six great grandchildren; five brothers, Joe Peterson of Amboy, IL; William Peterson of Eagle Grove; Rueben Peterson of Kanawha; George S. Peterson of Clarion; and Clarence Peterson of Eagle Grove; one sister, Edith Spangler of Eagle Grove; nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held Aug. 11, 1987 at the Holmes Baptist church in Holmes with Pastor David Hess of the Grace Baptist church in Harlan, officiating. Burial was in the Glenwood cemetery, Goldfield with Tom Hess, Steve Hess, David Hess, Bill Peterson, Andrew North, Jon Halvorsen, George Peterson and Clarence Peterson serving as casket bearers. Pauley Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.