

Mary Jane Hoover, 86

Feb. 21, 1922 - June 17, 2008

MELROSE, FL - Mary Jane Hoover nee Conrad of Melrose, FL, passed away June 17, 2008 following a long fight with COPD and cancer. Born in Harlan, IA, on February 21, 1922, she was preceded in death by her husband of 47 years, Russell H. Hoover. She is survived by her daughter, Cheryl Owen of Keystone Heights, FL, sisters Bonnie Harris of Keystone Heights, FL, and Geraldine Tillinghast of St. Petersburg, FL, and a brother, Max Conrad of Keystone Heights, FL. Several nieces and nephews and their children will miss her wonderful cooking, especially yummy cakes, pies, and "green stuff".



Mary Jane was one of eight children born to William and Love Conrad. Her early life was spent in the farming communities of Iowa.

Moving to California in 1940, she met Russell Hoover, a submariner, and they married in 1943. During the war, she worked as an optical specialist preparing binocular and gunsight lenses. She and her husband established a permanent home in New London, CT, after the birth of their daughter. She made a wonderful home there and then in Colorado Springs, CO, where the family moved after CPO Hoover's retirement. She owned and successfully operated her own beauty salon for over 40 years. In Manitou Springs, CO, she was a past matron of the Order of the Eastern Star and active in Shrine and the Daughters of the Nile. Following her retirement she moved to a wonderful house in Melrose, FL. As in Colorado, she took great pleasure in gardening and yard work. Flowers and plants prospered under her care. No leaf was left to fall untouched in her yard.

The family wishes to express their gratitude to the Haven Hospice staff for their compassionate care. Johnson-Overturf Funeral Home in Palatka, FL, is handling the arrangements, but no formal memorial service will be held. Family and friends will gather in the future. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations in Mary Jane Hoover's name to Haven Hospice - Palatka or the hospice of your choice or the American Cancer Society. Thank you for your love and concern.

**Johnson-Overturf
Funeral Home**

Palatka, Florida