

## Myrtle Maine Larsen, 98

Feb. 15, 1898 - April 9, 1996

**WALNUT** - Myrtle Maine Larsen was born in Walnut Feb. 15, 1898 to Eugene E. and Lenore Stinger Mickel. There were six children in the family. E.E. Mickel sold carriages and was an early automobile dealer in Walnut. She attended school in Walnut and graduated in 1916.

She married G. Dewey Larsen June 2, 1918. He was a well-known farmer and grain dealer in the area. He died in 1962 and she continued the farming operation from her home in Walnut where she lived until moving to Peace Haven Retirement Home in 1981. In 1991 she moved to the Westview Care Center in Indianola to be near her son, Robert, who is chairman of the music department at Simpson College and founder and artistic director of the Des Moines Metro Opera. It was at the Care Center that she died April 9, 1996 of complications following hip surgery at age 98 years, one month and 24 days.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; her daughter, Dorothy Jeanne Healy; three sisters, Gladys Fell, Aetha Paulson and Irene Norton, and a brother, Fred Mickel. She is survived by her son, Dr. Robert Larsen; her sister, Claire Walter of Walnut; two grandsons and other relatives.

Funeral services were held April 13, 1996 at the First Presbyterian Church, Walnut with Pastor Gerald Oliver officiating. Burial was in the Walnut Cemetery. Casket bearers were Terry Nieman, George Mertz, Vernon Paash, Herbert Mertz, Albert Schirm and Carl Martin. Knutson Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.