

Florence Lewis, 85

Aug. 27, 1917 - Aug. 1, 2003

JUNO BEACH, FL – Florence Day Lewis was born Aug. 27, 1917, in Council Bluffs. She lost her father and a brother, both named Jackson, early in life. As a young woman she cared for her invalid mother and two younger brothers, Donald and Frederick ("Bud"). She attended Lincoln High School in Council Bluffs, enrolled in a finishing school in Gulf Port, MS, and earned a certificate from the Katharine Gibbs School in Boston, MA.

In 1941, she married Francis Jackson (Jack) Lewis of Harlan. They had been friends since childhood, and married on the eve of Jack's service in WWII. Jack's military postings took them and their first child, William, to California. After the war, they returned to Harlan, where Jack had succeeded his father as the president of the Harlan National Bank. Florence gave birth to two more boys, Frederick Donald in 1943 and David in 1953, and devoted herself to raising her family. She was also active in P.E.O. and church activities at the Congregational (later United Church of Christ) Church in Harlan. Jack and Florence retired to Juno Beach, FL, where they owned a home and later moved into the Waterford Retirement Community. Jack died in 2001. She suffered a debilitating stroke in December of 2002. She died Aug. 1, 2003, in Juno Beach, FL, at age 85.

She was preceded in death by her son, Donald; grandson, Charles; and brother, Bud. Florence is survived by her sons, William and David; three grandchildren; two great grandchildren; her brother, Don; and other relatives.

The funeral will be held Oct. 11, 2003, at the Congregational UCC in Harlan.