

## Esther McKnabb, 85

**HARLAN** - Esther Lucille McKnabb, daughter of Andrew and Julia Weeks Christianson was born April 9, 1904 at Harlan. She grew up in Harlan, graduated from the Harlan High School in 1921 and began teaching rural school in 1922. In 1935, she married Axel L. Petersen in Exeter, NE. They farmed in Cass and Monroe Twps. until Axel's death in 1964. In 1967, she married George McKnabb in Harlan.

She was an active church member; she taught Sunday school and was a member of the United Methodist Women. She was a member of Zenobia Rebekah Lodge No. 286 and Pastor Noble Grand; a member of the Center Social Club; Hospital Auxiliary; retired Rural Teachers Association and Shelby County Historical Society. She died Feb. 14, 1990 at Myrtue Memorial Hospital in Harlan at age 85 years, 10 months and 5 days.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Axel in 1964 and George in Jan. of 1990; two brothers, Walter and Howard and a granddaughter, Sandy Thompsen. Survivors include three daughters, Carol (Mrs Richard) Thompson of Spring City, TN.; Marjorie (Mrs Ronald) Christensen of Carlisle and Shirley (Mrs Raymond) Swanson of



Novato, CA.; eight grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren; by four step-daughters, Carolyn Schroder of Hancock; Mildred Nielsen of Dunlap; Inez Dreager of Exira and Betty Juhl of Irwin; 14 step-grandchildren; 18 step-great-grandchildren and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Feb. 17, 1990 at First United Methodist Church with Rev. Janne Clinton, officiating. Burial was in the Harlan cemetery with Tim Gideon, Jon Williams, Mike Whitaker, Marlow Clemons, Kenneth Peters and Dan Christensen as casketbearers. Arrangements by Burmeister Funeral Home, Harlan.