

Isabelle McAvoy, 97

Jan. 21, 1912 - April 6, 2009

WALNUT — Isabelle Katherine McAvoy was born on January 21, 1912 to William and Viola (Alt) Kness in Milledgeville, IL. She graduated from Audubon High School with the Class of 1929. She was active in music and basketball. She attended Iowa State Teachers College in Cedar Falls from 1929 until 1930. After her schooling, she worked for her father at Midwest Life in Des Moines. In 1936, she moved to Carroll, and worked for the Carroll Herald newspaper for six years.



Isabelle was united in marriage to Paul Winston McAvoy on July 4, 1942 in Geneva, NE. She then became mother to Paul's children, Gary and Kay. The family moved to Ames, where their son Jon was born. The family moved to Carroll when Paul entered the service during World War II and lived there until his discharge. When he returned home, the family moved to Walnut, and two more daughters were born: Barbara and Maureen. Isabelle served as Walnut's city clerk from 1963 to 1979. She was active in the Am Vets Auxiliary, serving as State President in 1954, was a 4-H leader, Sunday School teacher, board member of First Presbyterian Church, and volunteer librarian for the Walnut Public Library and Thursday Federated Club. She traveled to Korea in 1981 as a part of Friendship Force. She was an avid Chicago Cubs fan. She moved to Allen House in Atlantic, in November of 2008 and died at Cass County Memorial Hospital on Monday, April 6, 2009, having attained the age of ninety-seven years, two months, and sixteen days.

Isabelle was preceded in death by her parents, William and Viola Kness; husband Paul McAvoy; her sisters: Irene Jewett and Elizabeth Rambow; brother William Kness; twin infant grandsons: Todd and Bret Stadlman; and son-in-law Richard McDermott. She is survived by her children: Gary McAvoy and his wife Elsie of Sun City West, AZ, Kay McDermott of Sun City, AZ, Jon McAvoy and his wife Sherryl of Adel, Barbara and her husband Joe Drake of Maryville, MO, and Maureen and her husband Bill Schmidt of Atlantic; sixteen grandchildren; twenty-four great-grandchildren; sisters-in-law Dorothy Peterson of Geneva, NE, and Marlene and her husband Carl Robinson of Greenwood, NE; other family members and a host of friends.

Pastor David Krueger conducted the 2:00 PM funeral on Thursday, April 9, 2009 at the First Presbyterian Church in Walnut. Honorary casket bearers were Samantha Baier, Megan Anderson, Carisa DeAnda, Jill Namanny, Sar-

ah Newell, Stacy Lendt, and Mary Ager. Serving as casket bearers were Daniel McDermott, Steven McDermott, Hunter Schmidt, Brian McAvoy, Ryan Stadlman, Alan McAvoy, Sean McAvoy, Joseph Drake, and Jay Drake. Interment was held at the Layton Township Cemetery in Walnut.

Pauley Jones
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