

Marjorie McDermott, 85

May 29, 1924 - Oct. 12, 2009

WALNUT — Marjorie Evalyn McDermott was born on May 29, 1924, in rural Lewis. She was the daughter of Glenn Owen and Beula (Collier) Jones, and had one brother, Glenn Owen Jones. The family moved to Atlantic when she was a young child, where she attended Jackson Elementary School and graduated from Atlantic High School in 1941. After high school, she worked at Atlantic State Bank for four years before working as a secretary for her father in his position as an officer of the state and national beekeeping organizations. In this capacity, she traveled extensively throughout the United States with her father.



September 20, 1947, Marjorie married Austin D. McDermott and became a farm wife. They loved dancing, family gatherings, and holding hands. Austie loved horses, and for him Marjorie learned to ride. They farmed for a short time west of Atlantic, then moved to the farm southeast

of Walnut where they raised their children: Evelyn, Elaine, Jim, and Karen ("Kenner"). Marjorie raised chickens, sold the eggs, and dressed the chickens. She tended a large garden for many years and canned and froze the produce. She was also an expert seamstress and enjoyed candlewick, needlepoint, and other sewing crafts. Marge was an excellent cook and excelled at baking pies and homemade bread. She enjoyed traveling, and went on many fun road trips with her friends Ruby and Jean as the trio aptly called "The Roving Redheads." She also loved traveling with her grandchildren, and took each on a special trip at least one time before her health limited her travels. In 1980, Marge and Austie moved to Walnut, at which time she worked as a desk clerk at the Country Village Inn. Marjorie lost the love of her life when Austie died in 1981. She retired in 1994 and later moved to Peace Haven Retirement Home in Walnut. In 2006, she moved to Heritage House in Atlantic where she grew fond of the nurses and aides who cared for her, calling them "her girls." Marjorie was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Walnut, United Presbyterian Women, Walnut Genealogy Society, and served many years on the board of the Walnut Library. Marjorie died on Monday, October 12, 2009, at Heritage House in Atlantic, having attained the age of eighty-five years, four months, and thirteen days.

Marjorie is preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Austie; her daughter Evelyn Eblen; her brother Glenn; her parents-in-law Harry and Josephine McDermott; and her brothers-in-law Clarence, Robert, Herb, and Richard McDermott. She is survived by her children: Elaine McDermott of Kansas City, MO; Jim McDermott and his wife Bobbie of Walnut; and Kenner and her husband Randy Baxter of Marne; seven grandchildren: Aaron Eblen and his wife Essence of Pensacola, FL; Tony Eblen and his wife Lindsey of Treynor; Adam Eblen and his wife Melissa of Jacksonville, FL; Megan Andersen and her husband Brian of Omaha, NE; Nellie Popp and her husband Brian of Omaha; Christine Baxter of Marne; and Brittney Baxter of Waterloo; eight great-grandchildren: Dylan Eblen, Aubry Eblen, Emma Eblen, Evyn Eblen, Cohen Eblen, Kenner Eblen, Nora Andersen, and Dasia Baxter; her son-in-law Gene Eblen of Walnut;

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her beloved sisters-in-law; many nieces and nephews; other family members and many dear friends. Pastor David Krueger officiated the 10:00 AM funeral service on Monday, October 19, 2009 at the First Presbyterian Church in Walnut. Serving as casket bearers were Bob Hughes, Brian Andersen, Brian Popp, Adam Eblen, Aaron Eblen, and Tony Eblen. Interment was held at the Layton Township Cemetery in Walnut.

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