

## Shirley Schnack, 84

Sept. 1, 1929 - Oct. 18, 2013

**HARLAN** — Shirley Ann Wheatley was born on September 1, 1929 in Omaha, NE to Vernon and Mildred (Vogelgesange) Wheatley. As an only child, it is evident from photographs that she was very much loved and happy. She went to grade school at Miller Park School in Omaha; then attended Junior and Senior High School in El Cerrito, CA, graduating in June of 1947.

In 1949, Shirley married Zack McCoy. To this marriage, her children Kenny, Marie, and Keith were born. In 1955, Shirley gathered her three small children, boarded a train and left Seattle, returning to the Midwest where she settled in Marne. She worked two jobs while being a single mother. Shirley dated very little, even though she was an incredibly vivacious and beautiful woman. She was very cautious not to expose her children to the wrong kind of



men, and watched over them very carefully. In 1959, she went on a date with a man who took her to do one of her favorite things, roller skating. They went to Jack's Skating Rink in Harlan. While on this date, Shirley met the love of her life, Jack Schnack, the owner of the skating rink. She immediately began dating him and only him.

In 1960, Jack and Shirley married and he became a dedicated father to her three children. Their family ran the skating rink together for many years. Shirley and Jack loved skating and dancing and went on many outings with their best friends, Don and Arlene Davis. The two couples would end their nights out dancing by going to Mickel's Diner in Harlan for an early morning breakfast. During her married years to Jack, she sold Avon, Cheerful Gifts, and made and sold amazing Swedish tea rings, with perfect white pastry dough, draped white frosting, and maraschino cherries dotting the edges. In 1973, Shirley and Jack fulfilled a dream they had together and moved to Little Rock, AR, where Jack built her a beautiful home.

In 1984, Jack passed away. In 1987, Shirley's beloved youngest son, Keith, died at the age of thirty-three. Soon after this, she returned to Harlan to be near family and friends. In Harlan, she enjoyed harvesting and selling black walnuts from her yard and making and selling bright rag rugs. She loved to bake, tend to her flowers, and fish. Shirley loved nothing more than holidays, when she would bake every traditional dish to perfection and then complain to her family that her dishes just "weren't very good". Her greatest love was to be able to cook for family. Nothing seemed to give her more joy than to give to friends and family. In July of 2013, Shirley became ill and made the decision to move to Little Flower Haven in Earling. On October 18, 2013, she passed peacefully away, surrounded by her family. She will be greatly missed. Shirley had attained the age of eighty-four years, one month, and seventeen days.

Shirley was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Jack, and her son Keith. She is survived by her son Ken Schnack and his wife Susan of Harlan, daughter Marie and her husband Dan McLandsborough of Logan; five grandchildren: Lonnie Schnack, Luke, Jake, and Steve Wingert, and Rose Ives; ten great-grandchildren: Tyler, Shalee, Shyann, Haley, Hanna, Bella, Lane, Chase, Owen, Max, and Kaitlin; and many friends.

*Pauley Jones*

FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY  
www.pauleyjones.com  
Baldwin at 9th, Harlan, IA  
Also in Avoca & Walnut

Pastor Al Hazelton officiated the 10:00 a.m. Memorial Service on Saturday, October 26, 2013 at Pauley Jones Funeral Home in Harlan. Musical selections were Anniversary Waltz, One Day at a Time, Abide With Me, and Somewhere My Love. Inurnment was held at Ellison Cemetery in rural Harrison County.