

Harlan, Iowa News Advertiser, March 28, 1997, pg 12

## **Ethel Sorenson, 92**

**March 17, 1904 - Feb. 16, 1997**

**HARLAN** - Ethel Geneive Sorenson, daughter of Thomas and Rebecca (Handy) Gerratt, was born March 17, 1904, in Persia. She was raised near Portsmouth, and moved to Harlan, at age 14.

March 30, 1922, she married Clarence Franklin Sorenson in Co. Bluffs. The couple owned and operated Sorenson Auto Parts and Glass Shop, the Harlan Trading Post, and the Harlan Merchandise Mart. He died in Harlan Oct. 31, 1969. She remained in her home until Nov. 15, 1996, when she became a resident of the Baptist Memorial Home. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Harlan. She died Feb. 16, 1997, at the Baptist Memorial Home at age 92 years, 10 months and 30 days.

Preceding her in death were her parents; her husband, Clarence; 11 brothers and sisters; three sons, Russell, Rex and Richard, and one grandson. Survivors include two daughters-in-law, Helen Sorenson of Phoenix, AZ and Ames; Colleen Sorenson of Harlan; seven grandchildren; 16 great grandchildren; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Services were held Feb. 19, 1997, at Burmeister Funeral Home with Rev. Paul Wilcox of the First United Methodist Church officiating. Casket bearers were Carmel Dardis, Don Oehlertz, Cindy Oehlertz, Jay Rehnstrom, Bucky Rehnstrom and Chip Sorenson. Burial was in the Harlan Cemetery.

