



Gertrude McVay

December 7, 1919 – December 17, 2012

Gertrude McVay, 93, longtime Ogallala resident, died peacefully Monday, December 17, 2012 in Perkins County Community Hospital in Grant.

Gertrude Alice McVay was born December 7, 1919 in Grant, Nebr., the daughter of Harry and Mary Hughes Miller.

She graduated from Grant High School in 1937.

On June 15, 1939 Gertrude married Ernie McVay. The couple lived in Washington, D.C. for a short time and then moved back to Ogallala in 1940.

In 1941 the McVays moved to Portland, Ore. where Ernie worked in the shipyards. Gertrude also worked in the ship yards and at Montgomery Wards. They returned to Ogallala in 1946. Gertrude opened a child daycare center in her home and, for nearly fifty years became the beloved babysitter of hundreds of kids, many of whom still keep in touch. She retired in 1992. Ernie died on April 16, 1993.

She was a member of the First United Methodist Church and was honored to be among the first to ride in the new elevator of which she helped build with her generous donations. She belonged to the Daughters of the Nile and Eastern Star. Gertrude liked going to the Senior Center, volunteering countless hours in the kitchen and at the reception desk. She also volunteered regularly with RSVP. Her favorite activity was giving tourist information in the Howdy Booth.

Gertrude enjoyed her last four years in the Golden Ours Home in Grant, participating in its many social activities. She was a favorite of the staff, who appreciated the "thank you" each time they helped her. She had many friends visit her often, including niece Jill Hepp, Larry Dunwoody and Dewey Dillon. Dewey later moved to the Home and they became constant companions

Preceding her in death was her husband, son Harry McVay in 2007, two sisters Marjorie Crowder and Dorothy DeWitt; and five brothers: Edsel "Cy", Jess, Harold, Dale, and John.

Survivors include one daughter Sandra Dale of Ogallala and daughter-in-law Doris McVay of Clearfield, Utah. Also four grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Visitation will be Thursday, Dec. 27, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Draucker Funeral Home. The Funeral Service will be Friday, December 28th at 10 a.m. in the Ogallala First United Methodist Church with Rev. Chuck Rager officiating.

Interment is in the Ogallala Cemetery. Memorials have been established to the First United Methodist Church and the Keith County Senior Center.

Online condolences may be sent to webmaster@drauckerfh.com.

Draucker Funeral Home of Ogallala is in charge of arrangements.