



Doris Nelson

Dow | Tuesday, February 23 2010

Doris Marie Nelson, 83, died unexpectedly at 4:40 a.m., Tuesday, February 23, 2010 at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis.

She was born in Alton on Nov. 4, 1926, the only child born to the late Frank & Bessie (Hooper) Gerson.

Doris graduated in 1944 from East Alton Wood River Community High School, and graduated from the University of Illinois with a B.S. in Education. She began her teaching career at Hartford Elementary and worked for the Granite City School District at Mitchell Elementary. She also taught the children of our military personnel in Germany.

She married Harry Nelson on July 30, 1964 in New York City, NY., and in 1971, they moved their family to the home they built in rural Dow. After the birth of her children, Doris remained home where she maintained the home, her family, and assisted on the family farm in every way.

Harry & Doris were the proud and loving parents of two children, their first, Frank, and then their daughter Amy. They shared many happy times together until tragedy struck them at the death of Amy at the age of 10 on May 29, 1979, and then the passing of Frank at the age of 18 on Jan. 19, 1985.

Doris will always be remembered by her family & friends as a wonderful example of a Godly woman even after the death of both her precious children. She was a former member of the First United Methodist Church in Wood River, where she was a member of the church choir, and after their move to Dow, she became loyal & devoted member of the First Baptist Church in Jerseyville, where she was a Sunday School teacher, a choir member, and served on numerous boards, and coordinator of the Meals on Wheels program at the church. Doris was very generous of her time, and devoted much of her talents to the Tri County Antique Club, the Ruby Rebekah Lodge and the Jersey County

Rural Youth, as well as the Delta Kappa Gamma sorority and Jersey County Farm Bureau.

Harry & Doris were able to travel extensively throughout their lives, and were able to visit many different countries. They were a member of the Fellowship of Christian Farmers and served on mission trips in Mexico, Costa Rica, as well as New Mexico, Texas and Arizona where they assisted in the construction of churches. They wintered in Bibleville, Texas for the past 15 years and was a member of the Rio Grande Bible Institute, where she again was a member of the choir, and served as secretary of the Bibleville Committee.

She is survived by her husband of 45 years, Harry Nelson of Dow; and numerous neices and nephews, and brothers & sisters in law. Visitation will be from 4 to 8 p.m. Thursday at Crawford Funeral Home in Jerseyville.

Funeral services will be conducted at 10 a.m., Friday at the First Baptist Church in Jerseyville, with Rev. Ed Haun officiating.

Burial will be in Valhalla Memorial Park in Godfrey. Memorials may be given to the First Baptist Church in Jerseyville.