

In Loving Memory

Katharine (Katie) Johnson, former social worker with Social and Rehabilitation Services and Winfield State Training Center died February 19, 2014. She was born May 7, 1921, in Epworth Hospital in Liberal, Kansas, and was the youngest child of long-time Liberal residents, E. S. and Kate (Lear) Irwin. Visitation and viewing will be in First Methodist Church of Newton, Kansas on Monday, February 24, beginning at 9 a.m. and will be followed by services at 11 a.m.

Katharine married Jack Johnson August 23, 1942, in Liberal, Kansas. While her husband served in the Pacific during World War II, she worked as a clerk in the Liberal Post Office. Following her husband's death in 2005, she made her home with her son and his wife, Steve and Marilyn Johnson, in Newton, Kansas.

Jack and Katie owned and operated two sundries stores in Kansas, first in Dexter and then in Udall following the 1955 tornado which destroyed the city. Katharine was a member of the Udall Methodist Church for more than 50 years and served as leader of the Open Door Sunday School class for more than 20 of those years.

Katharine was preceded in death by both parents, her husband, Jack, an infant son, Philip Irwin Johnson, three brothers, John Irwin, Harold Irwin, and Paul Irwin, and a sister, Marie Avery Hathaway.

Survivors include: a daughter and her husband, Bonnie and Gordon Dexter of Wichita, two sons and their wives, Stephen and Marilyn Johnson of Newton, and H.J. and Patty Johnson of Carthage, Missouri. Also surviving are 10 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren with another on the way.

Paid obituary

