

Amelia M. Whitson, 86

Amelia Mary Whitson, daughter of Riley and Mary (Phillips) Churchill, was born on a farm in Pottawattamie county on Dec. 30, 1890. She received her early education in a country school and later attended school in Neola. Amelia took piano lessons for several years and loved to play hymns. On Febr. 12, 1913, she married Wallace S. Whitson in Co. Bluffs. Six children were born to this union. After their marriage, Mr and Mrs Whitson lived in the McClelland and Bentley area for a few years. They then moved to Nebr., settling near Fontanelle. This was their home for eight years before moving to a farm southwest of Harlan. They farmed there for 12 years and then moved to a farm near Kirkman in 1936. After Mr Whitson's death in 1950, Amelia continued to make her home on the farm until retiring in 1959. She lived with her children until becoming a resident of the Baptist Memorial Home in Harlan in 1970. This has been her home since that time. She died at Myrtue Memorial hospital in Harlan on Aug. 30, 1977 at age 86 years and eight months. Mrs Whitson was a member of the Kirkman United Methodist church and was active in the women's activities as long as her health permitted.

In addition to her parents and her husband, she was preceded in death by an infant son, Leo; three grandsons; an infant sister; and four brothers - George, Vincent, Howell and Phillip Churchill. Her survivors include three sons - Norris of Harlan, Robert of Spring Valley, Minn., and Glen of Wisconsin Dells, Wisc.; two daughters - Virginia (Mrs Wilfred Bristol) of Co. Bluffs and Helen Foreman of Indianola; 23 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were conducted at Pauley Funeral Home on Friday, Sept. 2, 1977, with Rev. J. Elmer Brunk, pastor of the Kirkman United Methodist church, officiating. Burial was in the Rose Hill cemetery at Kirkman with Lynn Dent, Alan Downs, Alan Foreman, David Bristol, Steve Foreman and Dick Kunz, Jr., serving as casketbearers.