

Ethel M. Bisgard

Dec. 13, 1901 - Nov. 19, 1993

Harlan - Ethel Marie Bisgard, daughter of Robert and Mary (Van Arsdol) Edwards was born Dec. 13, 1901 on her parents farm near Defiance. She died Nov. 19, 1993 at the Baptist Memorial Home at age 91 years, 11 months and six days. After attending the first four years of elementary school in Defiance, she moved with her family to Monroe Township where she completed her elementary education at Rose Hill Country School. She graduated from Harlan High School in 1921.

June 21, 1921 she married Edwin Nelson, and they were the parents of three daughters. After their marriage, they made their home in Cuppy's Grove and Walnut. In 1937, Ethel and her daughters moved into Harlan where they finished school. During this time she cared for her daughters, she also cared for her Mother in her home, and Harlan became very dear to her. She was an active member of her church, teaching Sunday School for many years.

Sept. 22, 1946, she married Nels Bisgard at Shenandoah. They made their home in Harlan, and enjoyed taking trips to visit their children. After the death of Nels Jan. 8, 1965, she moved into an apartment. In 1982, she moved into the Westridge Apartments, and in Aug. of 1988, she became a resident of the Baptist Memorial Home. This has been her home since that time. She was a charter member of First Baptist Church in Harlan, a member of American Baptist Women and Fern Rold Circle.

In addition to her parents and husband Nels, she was preceded in death by her brothers and sisters; William Edwards, Myrtle Curtis, Florence Edwards, Clayton Edwards, Daisy Tobias, Leslie Edwards and John Edwards; a son-in-law, Durrell Petersen and a step-son, Richard Bisgard. She is survived by her daughters, Margaret (Clay) Pauley of Harlan; Edna Mae Petersen of Topeka, KS; and Lois (Roger) Lindblom of San Diego, CA; a step-daughter, Alice Mae Anderson of Pittsburgh, PA; five grandchildren, nine great grandchildren; six step-grandchildren; a sister, Clarice Larsen of Coarsegold, CA and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Nov. 22, 1993 at Pauley Funeral Home with Pastor Jeff Nelsen of First Baptist Church in Harlan officiating. Burial was in the Harlan cemetery with Mark Hall, Travis Maisel, Ryan Burchett, Scott Lindblom, James Petersen and Richard Burchett casket bearers.

Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.