

Frieda N. Bensen, 92 ✓

May 8, 1909 - Aug. 11, 2001

ELK HORN – Frieda Nina Bensen, daughter of Hans and Elsie (Siemssen) Bensen, was born May 8, 1909, on a farm near Cuppy's Grove. At 18 months of age she was stricken with polio. She was baptized at the Altamont Baptist Church and was home schooled by country school teachers and studied high school by correspondence. She is the last surviving charter member of the Monroe Coffee Club that was organized in October of 1938. She moved with her family to Elk Horn, in the early 1940's. She then became a member of the First Baptist Church in Elk Horn. She was self-employed as an



interweaver for clothing and dry cleaners in Omaha, NE, Council Bluffs, Harlan and Atlantic. Because of her illness with polio, she made several trips to St. Louis, MO for medical therapy. She learned to walk with the assistance of braces. She died Aug. 11, 2001, at the Salem Lutheran Home at age 92 years, three months and three days.

Frieda was preceded in death by her parents and her sister and brother-in-law, Clara and Alfred Peters. Survivors include her nephews, Kenneth Peters (Myrna) of Walnut; Carl Peters (Judy) of Harlan; her niece, Rose Ann (Bryant) Witherspoon of Nesbit, MS; great niece, Julie (Dr. Joe) Gunn and their son, Conner, of Kingsport, TN; great nephew, Robert Witherspoon (Tracey) and their daughters, Laura, Sarah and Rachel of Tullahoma, TN; great nieces, Dr. Kristi Peters of Cleveland, OH; Jennifer (Cory) Sornson and their daughter, Karen, of Elk Horn, and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Aug. 15, 2001, at the First Baptist Church in Elk Horn, with Pastor Mike Marcum officiating. Burial was in Cuppy's Grove Cemetery in Harlan, with Carl Peters, Bryant Witherspoon, Marvin Nielsen, Harold Peters, Harry Roenfeld, Jim McMahon and Kenneth Peters casket bearers. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.