

Elsie M. Best, 91

July 15, 1906 - Sept. 25, 1997

WALNUT - Elsie Margaret Best was born July 15, 1906, at Walnut. She was the daughter of Charles and Mary Thiessen Koll. She was one of four children in the family. She attended school in Walnut.

She married Edgar Randolph in 1925. They were the parents of two children, Henrietta and Donald. They lived in several communities in Iowa, but most of their time was spent in Co. Bluffs and Des Moines, before she returned to Walnut.

She married Kenneth Best Nov. 29, 1953, at Avoca. They made their home on a farm in the Walnut area. They retired from farming and moved to Walnut in 1972. She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Walnut. He died Dec. 17, 1989. She made her home in the Peace Haven Retirement Home and Dec. 22, 1994, she became a resident of the Colonial Manors Nursing Home in Avoca. She died at the home Sept. 25, 1997, at age 91 years, two months and 10 days.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband, Kenneth. She is survived by her children, Henrietta Read of Agawam, MA and Donald Randolph (Wanda) of Independence, MO; five grandchildren; 12 great grandchildren and eight great great grandchildren. She is also survived by one sister, Marie (Herbert) Mertz of Walnut, and two brothers, Lawrence Koll of Butler, MO and Elmer Koll (Orienne) of Harrisonville, MO, and other relatives..

Funeral services were held Sept. 27, 1997, at the First Presbyterian Church, Walnut, with Rev. William Beatty officiating. Burial was in the Walnut Cemetery. Casket bearers were Alfred Koll, Allen Peterson, Kenneth Fredrehsen, Jim Randolph, Ross Bornholdt and Eldon Thompson. Knutson Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.