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Sally Dirks, 68

May 6, 1935 - March 4, 2004

HARLAN – Sally Belle Dirks, the daughter of Everette and Vera Pitt Barrier, was born May 6, 1935, in Neola. She was baptized at the Presbyterian Church in Neola, where she also attended and graduated from Neola High School. While in school, Sally played on the Neola girls' basketball team that competed at the state tournament two years in a row. She was also active in band as well as various school plays. After graduation, she attended Jennie Edmundson School of Nursing in Council Bluffs.



Sally married Alfred Dirks in Worthington, MN June 3, 1955. To this union three children were born, Mark, Joel and Sarah. While her sons were young, Sally participated in scouts with them. In 1970, Sally and her family moved to Denison, where she worked at Cronks Cafe. She later was also employed as a CNA at Northcrest Nursing Home in Council Bluffs, and at REM Leadway in Shelby. She was employed at the Avoca Nursing Home when she retired in 1994 due to her health. She moved from Avoca and made her home in Harlan shortly after her retirement. Sally was a member of the Seventh Day Adventist Church in Harlan. She died March 4, 2004, at Creighton University Medical Center in Omaha, NE, at age 68 years, nine months and 29 days.

In addition to her parents, Sally was preceded in death by three sons, David and two who died in infancy; a granddaughter, Amanda Dirks; and her sisters, Paula Barrier and Darlene Steenbock. She is survived by her children, Mark Dirks and his friend, Jannel Underwood, of Charter Oak; Joel Dirks (Kathy) of Harlan; and Sarah Wegner and her friend, Steve Reetz of Deloit; her grandchildren, Trisha Dirks, Shane Swanson, Benjamin Wegner and Kelsey Wegner; her brothers and sisters, Linda Allison of Utah, Doug Barrier of California, Donnie Barrier of Colorado, Ruel Orme of Neola and Beulah Witt of Manning; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held March 8, 2004, at the Seventh Day Adventist Church in Harlan, with Pastor Curtis Denny clergy. Honorary casket bearers were Trisha Dirks, Shane Swanson, Benjamin Wegner and Kelsey Wegner. Casket bearers were Terry Orme, Gary Witt, Randy Orme, Davin Dickerson, Todd Harlow and Gary Bucy. Burial was in the Neola Township Cemetery in Neola. Pauley Jones Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.