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## **Myrtle Gardner - 83**

*May 9, 1918 - Sept. 14, 2001*

**HARLAN** - Myrtle Christine Gardner, daughter of Peter and Mary (Rasmussen) Christensen, was born May 9, 1918, in Poplar. She attended Mt. Zion country school through the eighth grade, and then lived with her sister in Indiana for several years, where they cleaned people's homes. She returned to Poplar and met Clifford P. Gardner at a dance in Corley.

After their marriage in the fall of 1939, the couple farmed five miles west of Harlan. Following Cliff's death Feb. 26, 1970, she moved into Harlan. Nov. 15, 1995, she became a resident of the Bethany Lutheran Home in Council Bluffs. She died Sept. 14, 2001, at the Bethany Lutheran Home at age 83 years, 4 months and 5 days.

Preceding her in death were her parents; her husband, Cliff; five brothers; four sisters; and one grandchild, Debra Renee. Survivors include three sons, Norman (Betty) Gardner of Council Bluffs, Gary (Jeanie) Gardner of Macon, MO and Ron Gardner of Harlan; eight grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Sept. 17, 2001, at the Burmeister-Johannsen Funeral Home with Pastor Jon Benson of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Harlan officiating. Casket bearers were Myrtle's grandchildren, Kimberly Reynolds, Donna Rodenburg, Mark Gardner, Cheryl Hill, Jennifer Gardner, Tracey Gardner, Devin Gardner, and Crystal Gardner. Burial was in the Harlan cemetery.