

## Mildred Francis Johnson, 97

Aug. 28, 1920 - June 15, 2018



**CUPPY'S GROVE** – Mildred Francis Johnson, daughter of Roy H. and Olive (Rold) Christiansen, was born on August 28, 1920, in Monroe Township, Shelby County, Iowa. She attended Monroe #4 country school, and graduated from Harlan High School in 1938. Mildred was married to Gaylord Ivan Johnson on June 28, 1939, in Cuppy's Grove. They became the parents of two sons, Richard James Johnson and David Dean Johnson. David passed away February 22, 1950, at the age of 14 days. Richard died May 7, 2015.

Mildred and Gaylord farmed in the Cuppy's Grove area of Shelby County for several years before moving to Gaylord's parents' farm in Jackson Township, Shelby County. They lived there for 20 years, and then moved back to Cuppy's Grove. Mildred and Gaylord later resided at Peace Haven in Walnut for five years, and then in Assisted Living in Avoca. Most recently, they were residents of Avoca Specialty Care in Avoca where they were blessed to celebrate their 78th wedding anniversary June 28, 2017.

Mildred was baptized at the Altamont Baptist Church in rural Shelby County on June 12, 1934, and was a member of that congregation for the rest of her life. She had served as clerk of the church for many years, and sang in choir and for weddings and funerals. Mildred taught Bible school for several years, and Jr. High Sunday School class for 16 years. She had been a member of the Meet Your Neighbor Club and Happy Home Club in Cuppy's Grove. Mildred and Gaylord enjoyed traveling and visited all the states in United States except Alaska in their lifetime. They spent winter months for 27 years in Apache Junction, AZ. Mildred also loved music, and played the organ and harmonica.

Mildred passed away June 15, 2018 at the age of 97 years. She was preceded in death by her parents, Roy and Olive Christiansen; her husband, Gaylord Ivan Johnson; and two sons, David Johnson and Richard Johnson.

Mildred is survived by one daughter-in-law, Marlene K. Johnson of Harlan; one step-grandson, William (Linda) Steinman of Emerson, NE; two step-granddaughters, Kathy (Darrin) Schnepel of Forney, TX, and Kristine (Greg) Gillilan of Wausa, NE; four step-great-grandchildren, Tiffany Schnepel, Paige Steinman, Piper Steinman, and Derek Gillilan; one step-great-great-grandson, Amari Schnepel; and other relatives and friends.

A funeral service was held Tuesday, June 19, 2018, at Altamont Baptist Church in rural Shelby County with Pastor Kathy Brown officiating. Rhonda Knudson served as the organist. Casket bearers were Ron Lee, Jeff Lee, John Lee, Greg Gillilan, Darrin Schnepel, and William Steinman. Burial was in the Cuppy's Grove Cemetery, rural Shelby County.

Burmeister-Johannsen Funeral Home in Harlan was in charge of the arrangements. Condolences may be left online at [www.burmeisterjohannsen.com](http://www.burmeisterjohannsen.com).

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