

## Margaret Raber, 90

*Oct. 6, 1916 - Oct. 28, 2006*

**HARLAN** — Margaret Lillian Raber, daughter of Fredrick S. and Azalia (Graves) Pexton, was born Oct. 6, 1916, in Harlan. She attended schools in Irwin, Audubon and later graduated from East High in Des Moines with the class of 1934. After high school, she attended Drake University where she received her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in 1939. The following autumn, she began her teaching career at Kanawha High School in Iowa.

July 19, 1942, Margaret married Donald A. Raber at the Wesley Methodist Church in Des Moines. While Donald was serving his country over seas during World War II, she continued teaching in Corwith. After Donald's honorable discharge from the United States Army, she worked as a substitute teacher and tutor in Kanawha. In 1955, Donald and Margaret farmed in Kossuth and Humboldt counties in Iowa until 1962 when they moved to her grandparent's farm five miles east of Harlan. She was a lifelong member of the United Methodist Church where she taught Sunday School and held offices in the United Methodist Women. She was also a 50 year member of the V.F.W. Auxiliary. Donald died May 3, 2002, and Margaret continued to make her home in Harlan. She died Oct. 28, 2006, at Elm Crest Retirement Center at age 90 years and 22 days.

In addition to her parents and husband, Margaret was preceded in death by her daughters, Jane Lowery and Joyce Raber; and her sister, Mary Ellen May. She is survived by her children, Jerry Raber of Waterloo; Judy (Steve) Konecne of Hardy, and Janice (Mark) Boeding of Columbus, NE; her son-in-law, David Lowery of Chandler, AZ; her grandchildren, Melissa Dalton, Benjamin Konecne, Maggie Konecne, Luke Boeding, Angela Boeding, Tony Boeding, Anna Boeding, Mary Boeding, Monica Boeding, Matt Boeding and Michael Boeding; her great grandsons, Seth and Evan Dalton; her brother, Fred C. Pexton of Rochester, MN; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Oct. 31, 2006, at the United Methodist Church with Rev Dave Swinton and Rev. Ron Kitterman officiating. Burial was held at Bowman's Grove with Luke Boeding, Tony Boeding, Matthew Boeding, Michael Boeding, Mark Boeding, Benjamin Konecne, and David Lowery casket bearers. Pauley Jones Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.