

Julia LaVerne Steenhusen, 84

April 6, 1907 — Oct. 12, 1991

IRWIN — Julia LaVerne, daughter of Edward and Sadie Woods Poynter, was born April 6, 1907 near Irwin, in Shelby county. She graduated from Irwin Consolidated School in 1924. Following graduation, she taught rural school near Irwin and at Lake City Elementary School.

May 2, 1930 she married Henry W. Steenhusen. After their son, Allan, was born, she remained at home, caring for her family. Henry died unexpectedly May 1, 1954. She returned to teaching at Irwin-Kirkman Community Junior High School, retiring in 1969. During her teaching career she attended classes at Drake University, earning her degree in 1971. She was intimately involved with the Irwin community. She was a charter member of the Irwin Library Club, a member of the United Methodist Church and its women's organization, and a long time member of the AAUW. She was honored during the Irwin Centennial by being chosen its queen. She had been in failing health and underwent major surgery just over two weeks before her death Oct. 12, 1991 at Myrtue Memorial Hospital in Harlan at age 84 years, 6 months and 6 days.

Besides her husband, she was preceded in death by her parents; a brother, Wallace Poynter; and a sister, Edna Poynter Monson. She is survived by her son, Allan (Nancy) of West Chester, PA.; a grandson, Aaron of West Chester, PA.; a sister-in-law, Florence Poynter of Harlan; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Oct. 15, 1991 at the United Methodist Church in Irwin with Rev. Walter Bernard officiating. Burial was in the Oakhill cemetery in Irwin with John Lewis Steenhusen, Peter Steenhusen, Cyrus Monson, George Steenhusen, Eugene Monson and Merlene Thompson casketbearers. Ohde Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.