

Maxine McCune Switzer, 92

Oct. 2, 1909 - March 16, 2002

HARLAN - Maxine Loucile McCune Switzer was born Oct. 2, 1909, near Defiance, one of six children born to Andrew and Linnie Felt Weiss. When she was 12 years old the family moved to Shelby. In 1927, she graduated from the Shelby High School. She attended college at Macalester College in St. Paul, MN, for one year and then transferred to the University of Nebraska at Lincoln where she graduated in 1931. At Lincoln, Maxine was active in drama, Zeta Tau Sorority, Lincoln Acapella Choir and Tassels, the UNL cheerleading organization.

She married Donald J. McCune Jan. 30, 1937, in Harlan. For a time they were the foster parents of two brothers, Roger and Jerry Friend. Max and Don operated the hardware store in Shelby for many years.

In 1969, Maxine married H.R. (Lefty) Switzer at Marshalltown. They made their home in Council Bluffs. She moved to the Elm Crest Retirement Apartments in 1992. She was a member of the Congregational United Church of Christ in Harlan. In 1997, she became a resident of the Elm Crest Retirement Community after suffering a stroke. She was a retired English teacher, having taught in Puerto Rico, 3 years at Minden and 14 years at Abraham Lincoln High School in Council Bluffs. She was a lifetime member of the NEA. She died March 16, 2002, at the Elm Crest Retirement Community at age 92 years, five months and 14 days.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husbands, Donald J. McCune and H.R. (Lefty) Switzer; a sister, Bette Klein; and a stillborn brother. She is survived by her sisters, Marcella (George) Jones of Omaha, NE; Roma Murdaugh of Carlsbad, CA; a brother, A.O. (Sunny) Weiss (Lavina) of Atlantic; a brother-in-law, Jerry Klein of Bend, OR; a stepdaughter, Sally Malloy and her friend, John, of Grimes; a stepson, Larry Switzer (Carol) of Coral Springs, FL; three step grandchildren; four step great grandchildren; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held March 19, 2002, at the Congregational United Church of Christ with Rev. John H. Rozendaal officiating. Burial was in the Shelby Cemetery. Honorary casket bearers were Ruth Ridge, Anita McKee, Lavina Weiss and Linda Miller. Casket bearers were Derald Graybill, Jack Smyser, Amy Gulbranson, Mel Hursey, Wade Hursey and Tom Gulbranson. Knutson Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.