

Delta Wiuff, 92

Jan. 31, 1919 - Dec. 5, 2011



HARLAN — Delta Annetta Wiuff was born on January 31, 1919 to Chris and Emma (Rasmussen) Petersen on the family farm west of Jacksonville. She walked back and forth to Jackson No. 5 country school in Jacksonville every day. When the girls started high school, their dad would get the old Model A started for them so they could get to school. They would have to cover up the radiator with old quilts so it would start after sitting in the cold on winter days. Delta worked for a couple families right after high school until she started teaching. She taught for two years at Polk No. 1 until it closed

due to lack of students. She also taught for a couple years at Jackson No. 8.

Delta met Palmer Wiuff at Merrill's Grove church and they were married there on June 17, 1941 by his father. Three daughters were born to them: Connie, Sally, and Luann. Delta worked at the Holiday Buffet before purchasing the A & W in Harlan with her husband and sister, Rhoda in 1966. In 1967, the girls went to Santa Monica, California for schooling with A & W. They owned the A & W for eleven years before selling it. Delta and Palmer enjoyed traveling and made several trips to California taking a different route almost every time. She taught Sunday School for many years and served as the church clerk. In 1997, they moved from the family farm near Jacksonville to Harlan. After Palmer's death in 2004, Delta continued living at home until her failing health caused her to move to Elm Crest Assisted Living in July of 2010. Later that year she moved to the nursing home side of Elm Crest where she died on Monday, December 5, 2011, having attained the age of ninety-two years, ten months, and five days.

Delta was preceded in death by her parents, husband Palmer, daughter Sally Olson, sisters Eletha Christensen, Rhoda Graves, and Berdine Harris, and brother Mark Petersen. Delta is survived by her daughters Connie and her husband Larry McDermott of Harlan and Luann and her husband Jon Hansen of Harlan; six grandchildren; ten great-grandchildren; son-in-law Alan Olson of LeMars; other family members and friends.

Pastor Joe Earle officiated the 1:30 p.m. funeral service on Wednesday, December 7, 2011 at Grace Baptist Church in Harlan. Linda Post accompanied vocalist Jeff Swensen. Serving as casket bearers were Kent McDermott, Trever Melby, Loren McDermott, Jon Holthe, Shawn Olson, and Greg Culver. Interment was held at the Harlan Cemetery.

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