



Helen Young

November 24, 1919 - January 25, 2013

Helen Grace Young, 93, of Philomath died Friday, Jan. 25, at Stoneybrook Assisted Living in Corvallis.

She was born in Ringgold County, Iowa, to Vernon and May Drake, and was raised on a small farm near Mount Ayr, Iowa, and graduated in 1937 from high school in Mount Ayr.

She married Ralph Wayland Young on Sept. 5, 1939, in Pattonsburg, Mo. Shortly thereafter, the newlyweds moved to Corvallis, where they both worked at the Pankalla hop yards. They moved to Bieber, Calif., then returned to Moun Ayr when Wade joined the U.S. Army in 1943. Helen taught school while he was gone. When their first son was born, Wade was missing and believed killed in action in France. It was a very bad time for Helen.

Upon Wade's return home, they traveled back to California and then to Oregon, where they lived out the rest of their lives.

Except for the brief jobs at the hop yards and as a schoolteacher, Helen was a homemaker and earned money baby-sitting for numerous children who consider her "Grandma." She was an avid reader her whole life and read between 15 to 20 books every two weeks, even up until the day she died. She also was an accomplished quilter, and enjoyed family and friends.

She was a charter member of First Baptist Church of Philomath.

Preceding her in death were her husband, Wade, who died in 2009; sisters Florence Foltz and Bessie Drake; and brothers Glen and Richard Drake.

She is survived by a sister, Rose Findley of Savannah, Mo.; daughter, Kathy

McNurlin of Corvallis; sons David Young (Dyana) of Philomath, Jim Young (Cheryl) of Independence, and Timon Young (Terri) of Philomath; six grandchildren, Sean, Daniel, Clint, Leah, Matt and Ben; five great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews and their children.

Graveside services will take place at 10 a.m. Friday, Feb. 1, at Twin Oaks Memorial Park. A memorial service will follow at noon at First Baptist Church, 335 S. 26th St. in Philomath, officiated by Allan Stensvad.

The family asks that donations be made to Benton Hospice Service or First Baptist Church of Philomath in care of McHenry Funeral Home.