Opal Wilson Mickle Halsey

Opal Wilson Mickle Halsey died in the Hospice Care Center at Skiff Medical Center in Newton on April 18, 2012.

A memorial service was held April 23, with burial at Newton Memorial Park Cemetery. Memorials in her name may be made to Skiff Medical Center.

Opal was born in Afton, Iowa, on Aug. 14, 1923, the daughter of Clark and Reubie Lamb Wilson. The family moved to Jasper County and lived for several years in Newton where her father was employed at the Maytag Company.

She attended school in Newton and rural Jasper County and graduated from Newton High School. She married Thomas (Ed) Mickle and the couple lived on a farm near Reasnor. They moved to Newton and during summers lived in a number of Iowa towns while Ed conducted his road contracting business.

Opal was a homemaker and stay-at-home mom to her four children, Kathleen, Tom, John and Luella. Opal and Ed divorced, and Opal later married Donald Halsey. They managed the Terrace Inn in Newton and restaurants in several other Iowa towns, including Iowa Falls and Red Oak.

Opal maintained an income tax business in her home for many years. She participated in a bowling league for as long as her health and that of her friends allowed. In recent years she was cared for by her granddaughter, Shannon Mickle of Newton.

She is survived by her sister and brother, Marilyn Strovers and Robert Wilson, both of Grinnell, and many grandchildren and great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents; her four children and her husband, Don Halsey; and her siblings, Winton Wilson, Kendall 'Bub' Wilson, Shirley Peer Stanbrough, Bernice Reeves and Ronald Wilson.