Lila Irene McIlrath Foster, 96

Lila Irene McIlrath Foster, 96, of Las Vegas, Nevada, formerly of Brooklyn, Iowa, died Feb. 5, 2017.

Lila was born Sept. 5, 1920 in Hartwick, Iowa, to Nathaniel and Stella (Hakanen) McIlrath. She was a graduate of Hartwick High School and Paris Academy of Cosmetology. She was in business with her sister, Evalena, in Victor, Iowa, when she met her future husband, Lawrence Foster.

Lila and Lawrence were married on October 7, 1939. Lawrence worked as a radar technician for the U.S. Army during World War II. After the war they settled in Brooklyn where Lawrence and his brother, Raymond, operated a TV and appliance store and Lila had a clothing store. Lawrence and Lila were blessed with three children, Sondra, Larry and Earl.

In 1973 Lawrence and Lila retired to Las Vegas, Nevada, where they lived the remainder of their lives.

After 58 years of marriage, Lawrence died on Aug. 17, 1997.

Lila is survived by her three children: Sondra Lee Jacobi, of Las Vegas; Dr. Larry Dean Foster of Sioux City, Iowa; and Dr. Earl James Foster of Destin, Florida; 8 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, all 7 siblings and her husband.