

BC- MARCH 3, 2004

Mary Donelda Johnston, 91

Dona Johnston died on Sunday, February 22, 2004, at Brookhaven Nursing Home, where she had been a resident since October 2001.

She was born on August 28, 1912, to Robert and Vivien (Frease) Lawson. Dona weighed less than two pounds at birth. She lived her whole life in Brooklyn, except for a brief period during World War II, and she was especially proud to have lived with her family in downtown Brooklyn for more than 80 years in the same house. She attended commercial college in Des Moines after her graduation from Brooklyn High School in 1930.

Before her marriage to Evan Johnston in 1937, she worked for W. G. Ray at the *Grinnell Herald*, and Superintendent T. R. McGeorge at Brooklyn Public Schools, and she served as clerk for Representative J. W. Frizzell during his three terms at the Iowa State House in Des Moines.

Following her marriage, she was bookkeeper at Eichhorn & Eichhorn Chevrolet Company in Brooklyn, where her husband was a salesman.

Dona was an avid golfer and was ladies club champion in 1959. She was a member of the Methodist Church, and was a 50-year member of the Order of the Eastern Star.

She is survived by her son, Richard of Iowa City; her brother, Robert Lawson of East Lansing, Mich.; her sister-in-law, Kay Lawson of Brooklyn; and three nieces and three nephews.

Her husband, Evan, preceded her in death in 1987.

There will be a private burial in Brooklyn Memorial Cemetery.
