

Colleen Thompson-Gearhart

Colleen Thompson-Gearhart, 89, of Newton died Tuesday, Feb. 1, 2011, at her home.

A celebration of life service was held Saturday, Feb. 5, at the V.F.W. in Newton.

She was born Dec. 2, 1922, in Searsboro, the daughter of Leonard and Jenny Snook Rexroat. She was a production worker at the Maytag Company and Winpower in Newton, retiring in 1984.

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She is survived by her son, Richard Dean Thompson of Newton; three daughters, Sandy Bird and Rena Miller of Newton and Linda Long of Waterloo; 14 grandchildren; 40 great grandchildren and 17 great great grandchildren; her brothers, Harry Lenz of Fort Dodge, Les Rexroat of Oklahoma and Bob Rexroat of Florida; and her sisters, Mary Alice Garrison of Utah, Doris Hadden of Colorado, Irene Tortate of Centerville and Jenny Johnson of Oklahoma. She was preceded in death by her parents; her first husband, Oren K. Thompson; her second husband Merle Gearhart; and two sons, Johnny Thompson and Rex Thompson.