

VIDA MAE JOHNSTON

Vida Mae Johnston, "Johnnie" to her closest friends, was born Oct. 2, 1897 at Deep River, the daughter of Charles and Susan Cram McWilliams. She departed this life June 4, 1990 in the Montezuma Senior Home at 92 years of age.

On Oct. 18, 1912 she became the wife of David C. Johnston at Deep River. To this marriage two children were born. David passed away Aug. 8, 1936. She was a farm wife for many years on a farm northwest of Deep River. In 1939 she moved to Iowa City, where she served many years making other peoples' lives better. She was a seamstress at one of the local department stores, was head cook at the University of Iowa student union and "retired" to a short order cook in local restaurants. Later she worked out of her home repairing and altering clothes. Probably the thing that won her most fame was her peanut brittle she made every Christmas. She would make over 100 boxes every year.

She was preceded in death by her husband; her mother and father; two brothers: Robert and Orrie McWilliams, and two sisters: Bessie Fahrney and Edith Wilson.

Vida is survived by one daughter and her husband, Helen and Burdett Cranston of Deep River; one son and his wife, David Mac and Connie Johnston of Morris, Ill.; nine grandchildren; 17 great grandchildren; three great great grandchildren; one sister, Margaret Hollingsworth of Des Moines, and other relatives and friends.

Service was June 7 at Watts Funeral Home, Montezuma with Rev. Susan Krummel, United Church, Deep River, officiating.

Music was provided by Mrs. Carol Dale, soloist, and Mrs. Verla Van Dee, organist.

Casket bearers were Richard Cranston, David Johnston, Larry Johnston, Stephen Cranston, Donald Cranston, David Cranston, Dale McWilliams, Dean McWilliams and Charles Hollingsworth with interment in Golden Rod cemetery, Deep River.

David

BC June 20, 1990