

Vera Fern Goodmanson, 91

April 16, 1910 – Oct. 13, 2001

HARLAN – Vera Fern Goodmanson, daughter of Warren Lester and Maude Esther (Whitmer) Baker, was born April 16, 1910, in Lucky Strike, Alberta, Canada. She was raised in northwestern Iowa, and graduated from Morningside College in Sioux City.

She taught secondary school until her marriage to Alfred T. Goodmanson Nov. 21, 1934, in Sheldon. She and Al lived in several southwestern Iowa towns before settling in Harlan, in 1942. Fern worked for many years in the courthouse for the Shelby County government, retiring from the Assessor's office in 1975. She belonged to the Congregational United Church of Christ in Harlan, where she was a member of the Pricillas women's group. She was also a member of the Order of the Eastern Star and the Shelby County Historical Society. In recent years, she was a member of the Writer's Bloc and took pleasure in writing with the group. She died Oct. 13, 2001, at Myrtue Memorial Hospital at age 91 years, five months and 27 days.

Preceding Fern in death were her parents; her husband, Alfred, in January 1969; and one brother, Lester Baker. Survivors include one son, Dean (Jane) Goodmanson of Arvada, CO; one daughter, Vera Goodmanson of Niceville, FL; one sister, Rena Drefke of Marcus; four grandchildren; one great grandchild; nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held Oct. 17, 2001, at the Congregational United Church of Christ with the Rev. Dr. Keith Karstens officiating. Casket bearers were Eddie Roos, Clifford Tamm, LaVern Holtmyer, Ron Moon, Glenn Zimmerman and Clarence McDermott. Burial was in the Harlan Cemetery. Burmeister-Johannsen Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.