

## **Burkholder, Dorothy**

Dorothy Burkholder, 93, of Pigeon and formerly of Harper, Kansas, passed away Monday, March 5, 2007, at Pine River Healthcare Center, St. Louis. Dorothy Laing was born November 15, 1913 on the family farm northwest of Anthony, Kansas, daughter of the late Edward and Hazel (Miller) Laing. She attended Pleasant Valley School District 19 grade school and graduated from Anthony High School with honors in 1931. She accepted Christ as her Savior and was baptized in the Anthony Christian Church at age 16. On January 18, 1933, she was united in marriage to Clarence Burkholder and to them was born a daughter, Betty Ann, on December 16, 1933. He preceded her in death on August 26, 2002. Dorothy and Clarence joined the Crystal Springs Mennonite Church in 1941 where they were ordained Deacon and Deaconess. In 1991, they later moved to Harper, Kansas where they were associate members of Hesston Mennonite Church. Dorothy enjoyed working with children and taught Sunday School and Bible School for many years in both Kansas and Arkansas. She served on the Mennonite District Women's Missionary and Service Auxiliary committee for several years as president and secretary of Home and Special Interest. She also led several women's retreats throughout the South Central Conference District of the Mennonite Church. Dorothy loved music and studied piano and organ for four years at Friends University in Wichita, Kansas and offered piano and organ lessons for years for as many as 25 students. Dorothy moved to Country Gardens in Pigeon in 2003 to be near her family. Mrs. Burkholder is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Betty and Lyle Shetler, of Pigeon; two grandchildren, Kent (Karin) Shetler, of Pigeon, and Karla (Marlin) Nussbaum, of Poplar Grove, Illinois; five great grandchildren, Andrea and Eric Nussbaum, and Kate, Kacy and Koty Shetler; a brother, Marlan Laing; a sister, Norma (Wilmer) Stewart; and a sister-in-law, Helen Laing, all of Newton, Kansas; and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her brothers, Archie and Bill Laing; a sister-in-law, Barbara Laing; and a grandson, Ronald Shetler. A funeral service for Mrs. Burkholder will be conducted at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 8, 2007, at Michigan Avenue Mennonite Church, Pigeon. The Rev. Scot Wilson will officiate. There will also be a funeral service for Mrs. Burkholder on Saturday, March 10, 2007, in her previous home community of Harper, Kansas with burial in the Crystal Springs Mennonite Church Cemetery, Harper, Kansas. Visitation will be from 3 p.m. until the time of the service at 7 p.m. on Thursday at Michigan Avenue Mennonite Church. Memorials may be made in her memory to the Gideons International.