Marjorie S. Dunham

ERIE - Marjorie S. "Marge" Dunham, 94, longtime Erie resident, died at 7:10 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 2, 2005 at the Labette County Medical Center in Parsons.

She was born Sept. 11, 1910 in Hertha (south of Erie) to Roscoe and Helen (Williams) Pierce. She graduated from Erie High School in 1928 and attended summer classes at Pittsburg State University.

She taught at Vinewood School for four years. After her marriage to Hollis Dunham on Nov. 26, 1931, she stopped teaching. Mr. Dunham preceded her in death Aug. 13, 1996.

For 25 years, she worked as an assistant at the Pierce Funeral Home, which was owned and operated by her brother, and she often sang at the funerals. She retired from the Erie Post Office after being a rural route carrier for 13 years.

She and her husband owned and operated a cleaning establishment and the Wright and Dunham Hardware Store in Erie.

She was a longtime member of the First Christian Church of Erie and was one of the first women elders of the church. She was a founding member of the Finesse Bridge Club 75 years ago and also was a member of the Blue Bag Bridge Club. She was active in the American Legion Auxiliary and in 1961 served as Kansas State Department Chair. She was a member and past matron of the Order of Eastern Star and was the first mother advisor for the Rainbow Girls.

Survivors include a daughter Nancy Greenwood of Chesterfield, Mo.; four grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; a brother James B. Pierce of Springfield, Mo.; and two sisters Jane Miller of Encino, Calif. and Virginia Pierce of Osage Beach, Mo.

She was preceded in death by a daughter Yvonne DeGasperi; a granddaughter Jennifer DeGasperi; five brothers and two sisters.

Graveside services will be 1 p.m. Sunday at the East Hill Cemetery in Erie with Rev. Debra Lorenz officiating. The memorial service will be at 2 p.m. Sunday at the Erie Christian Church. The family will greet friends following the service at the church.

The Pierce-Carson-Wall Funeral Home is in charge of the graveside service.

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