Blanche G. McDonald

PALM SPRINGS, Calif. - Blanche G. McDonald, 97, of Palm Springs, Calif., formerly of rural Girard, died Sunday, Sept. 11, 2005, at her home in Palm Springs.

She was born Aug. 17, 1908, at the family farm south of Girard, to George and Hattie Scott Mattix. She attended Crawford County schools, Gregg District 74, Girard High School, and Kansas State Teachers College.

She was the last survivor of the third generation of a pioneer Crawford County family. Her grandparents, Henry and Barbara Jackson Scott, homesteaded the land in 1866, and her parents, George and Hattie Scott Mattix built the 1890s era farmstead and reared three sons and five daughters there.

She married in 1926 and never lived in Kansas again, but throughout her lifetime returned many times to visit with siblings who remained in Crawford County.

In 1945, she relocated to Los Angeles from Tulsa, Okla., with her teenage son. It remained her home for fifty years. In 1960, she married Harry McDonald. After his death in 1994, she lived at her home in Palm Springs, to be near her family.

She is survived by a son, Jack Parker; three grandchildren; along with seven great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren in the Los Angeles area; three nieces; and seventeen great nieces and nephews.

Graveside services with family were held for her at Forest Lawn Cemetery in Los Angeles, on Thursday, Sept. 15, with her son giving the eulogy.

Local obituary arrangements were by the Brenner Mortuary, 114 E. Fourth St. of Pittsburg.

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