Norma Thompson Turner

OSWEGO - Norma Thompson Turner, 100, died Monday, Oct. 20, 2003, at Oswego Hospital, after a three-month illness. She had lived at Oswego Home Place for the past five years.

She was born Oct. 28, 1902, at Smithfield, Mo., to Bruce and Ada (Fare) Marshall. The family later moved to Crestline. She graduated from Columbus High School in 1920. She attended Pittsburg Normal Training and started teaching the following year. She received her teaching degree at Pittsburg State University in 1950.


Mrs. Turner taught several years in Cherokee County rural schools and in the Galena school system. She also gave private piano lessons. She was elected to be Cherokee County Superintendent of Schools from 1952 until 1958, when she retired.

She was baptized in the Smithfield Christian Church as a young child and after moving to Oswego in 1977 joined the United Methodist Church in 1979. She was a charter member of Alpha Delta Kappa sorority and the Robert Morris Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star in Pittsburg. She directed several community concerts up until her 94th birthday. She was organist for several years at the Galena Christian Church as well as the Episcopal Church in Galena.

Survivors include one son, Roger Thompson of Lafayette, La.; two daughters, Peg O'Hara of Manhattan and Jane Tener of Oswego; 17 grandchildren, 35 great-grandchildren; and eight great great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by two sons Robert "Buddy" Thompson in 1932 and Gregg Thompson in 1997; one grandson, Dennis O'Hara; and one sister, Nadine Chubb.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Friday, Oct. 24, at United Methodist Church at Oswego with Pastor Charlotte Coates and Pastor Paul Wiand officiating. Burial will be 3 p.m. in Hillcrest Cemetery at Galena. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Thursday at Murdock Funeral Home in Oswego, where the family will receive friends from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday. Arrangements are under the direction of Murdock Funeral Home of Oswego.

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