

4-11-84

Myrtle E. Jones

Mrs. Thomas E. (Myrtle) Jones, 92, died at the Colonial Manor Nursing Home of Groton on Monday, March 26. Services were held at 2 p.m., at the United Methodist Church in Groton on Thursday, March 29, with the Rev. John Maines officiating. Burial was at the Huffman Cemetery under the direction of the Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel.

Casketbearers were Bill Freeland, John Freeland, Greg Freeland, Earl Lowary, Jerroll Erdmann and Alfred Tastad. Mrs. Gene Cassels was organist and Lee Schinkel, soloist, sang "Just As I Am" and "Sweet Hour of Prayer". The congregation sang "My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less". Ushers were Vernon Walter and Earl Ruden.

Myrtle Freeland was born at Macopin, N.J., on December 28, 1891, to Thomas and Emma Cooley Freeland where they had gone to visit and spend the winter with relatives, especially the John Freeland's, parents of Thomas. At the age of three months, she with her parents and two brothers returned to the family homestead at Claremont, where she grew up, attending the rural elementary school, before attending high school and college work at Northern Normal Industrial School, Aberdeen. After graduating, she taught school a few years in South Detroit Township, resuming teaching again in the 1920's for a few terms.

In December, 1928, she moved from her brothers and mother's farm home at Claremont to Groton. Soon afterwards, she became a clerk in Groton's first Red Owl Store, managed by the late Sven Windh. When the store moved and enlarged to the present site of Paetznick-Garness Furniture Store, she went along and still worked. Later she was employed by Vance Miller's Department Store, both on the dry goods and grocery side. Her store work ended in 1946 when she had been employed a year with Milton & Maxine Sippel in their grocery and meat market, in the present Ken's Fairway building.

She was united in marriage to Thomas E. Jones at Leola. They continued making their home in Groton. Mr. Jones died on July 20, 1970.

In 1976 after surgery and removal of a foot, Mrs. Jones became a wheelchair resident of Colonial Manor of Groton.

She was a member of the United Methodist Church of Groton, the United Methodist Women, Mary Circle, a member of Royal Neighbors and a charter member of the Groton Garden Club.

Survivors include a son, Kenneth Swearingen, Levittown, N.Y.; one daughter, Emilie Waage, Groton; 11 grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren; six stepgrandchildren; one stepson Leighton Jones, Ipswich; one stepdaughter, Bernyce Schlepp, Upland, Calif.

Preceding her in death were her husband, one son, one stepdaughter, one stepgrandson and two brothers.