



Opal Irene Walker

October 18, 1925 - October 21, 2014

Opal Irene Walker died Tuesday morning, October 21, 2014, at the age of 89 years and 3 days.

She was born Opal Jennings on October 18, 1925 in Swan, Iowa. Opal served in the Civil Air Patrol out of Corpus Christi, Texas, during World War II. She married Daryl Neal Walker in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, on 9 October 1944. They marked their 70th wedding anniversary this month. Daryl served in the U.S. Navy and was stationed in Norman, Oklahoma, then transferred to Panama, and finally to San Antonio, Texas, in about 1950. They moved to Adkins, Texas, in 1962.

Opal was head of P.E. and Aquatics at the YWCA for many years where she taught swimming, first aid and CPR, and sailing. She earned a Bachelor's degree in physical education at Incarnate Word College in 1971 and became a special education teacher with East Central Schools. She was teacher of the year at Oak Crest Middle School in 1987.

Opal was very active in the community. She was a member and served as an Elder of Boldtville Presbyterian Church. Other activities included Mesquite Trail Drivers Association, DAR, Eastern Star, Extension Club, 4-H, and sports coach in softball, track, basketball, and Special Olympics. She and Daryl sponsored hayrides and parties at their Blue Triangle Ranch.

After retirement, they became snow-birds, dividing their years between Iowa and Texas. In Iowa, Opal was director of the What Cheer Opera House for five years and performed in many of the shows.

Opal was preceded in death by her parents Homer and Coral Jennings, her brother Roy Jennings, and sister Avis Jennings, and her first daughter Beverly Jo Walker who died as infant in 1946. She is survived by her husband Daryl Walker, her sisters Mary Jennings and Lois Maddox, her brother Frank Jennings, sons Michael Walker of What Cheer, Iowa and Stephen Walker of Dallas, Texas, daughter Diana Mandity of What Cheer, Iowa, step-daughter Patricia Saunier of Hondo, Texas, and step-son Michael Scholtus of What Cheer, Iowa. Also, seven grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, one great-great-grandchild, and Donna Pruitt, an 'adopted' family member and long-time care-giver.