Irene Kerr

September 22, 1918 - December 29, 2012

Irene Kerr was born September 22, 1918 in Big Piney, Wyoming to Sylvester I Shideler and Julia Ann (Whitman) Shideler. The fifth of seven children in the family, she was born just weeks before the end of World War I.
In an era when an eighth grade education was the norm, she set a goal of finishing high school in three years, rather than the normal four, which she did, graduating from Boise High School in 1935. In 1940 she married Jim Kerr, from McMinnville Oregon. They lived in the Willamette Valley and Portland through World War II, then in New Mexico, before settling in Yakima, Washington, where they raised their family. Son Royse was born in New Mexico in 1954, daughter Deena was born in 1956 in Yakima.

Jim's deteriorating health meant that Irene assumed increasing responsibility for his care and the care of their children, as well as her elderly parents. Living through the great depression and a world war, and surviving polio made her extremely strong and resourceful. It was only in her advanced years that she allowed anyone else to care for her, living with her daughter and son-in-law.

Irene was preceded in death by her husband, her parents and brothers; Ray Shideler, Leon Shideler and Willie Shideler, sisters; Mable Turner and Bertha Taylor. She is survived by daughter Deena Fryman and husband Bill of Lancaster, Texas, son Royse Kerr and wife Vicki of Abilene, Texas, and sister Myrtle Bailey and husband Jack of St George, Utah. She is also survived by

grandchildren Rhett Lax and wife Kelly of Red Oak Texas, Jered Lax and wife Tara of Lancaster Texas, Christy Gozdanovic and husband Michael of San Antonio, Texas and Michael Kerr and wife Michael, also of San Antonio. She also leaves behind 10 great-grandchildren, an amazing extended family and a multitude of friends.

Tribute Wall

Irene was my sister, and I loved her dearly. She always thought of others before herself. When we were kids, we were like any other siblings, she was older so she was the boss. I really didn't like that, but as we grew older things were different. We both had family's and lived in different areas, but we saw each other as much as possible. I remember lots of nights after everyone else had gone to bed that we would sit and visit till all hours of the morning. Even the night we stayed up all night canning green beans. There are a lot of things I could say, but will just end with the fact that she Loved The Lord above all else.
We as her family will miss her very much.##imported-begin##Myrtle S. Bailey##imported-end##

December 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM