

# OBITUARIES

## CLARA BRIDGES, 97

Clara Bridges, age 97, formerly of Marshalltown, passed away Wednesday, April 15, 2009, in Shreveport, L.A. Funeral services were held Monday, April 20, 2009, at First Baptist Church in Marshalltown. Burial followed in Rose Hill Memorial Gardens. Pursel Davis Funeral Home is entrusted with arrangements.



Clara Louise Mason Bridges, daughter of Fred L. and Ida May Cady Mason, went home to be with the Lord on April 15, 2009, at the age of 97. Clara was born February 5, 1912, and grew up in a loving family on a farm near Clutier, Iowa and was the youngest of 13 children. She was educated in Tama County where she made high grades and loved to go to school.

At the age of 19, she married Cecil Homer Bridges on July 4, 1931. She and Cecil worked on the Mason farm for the first few years of marriage, then

Page 5

moved to Marshalltown, Iowa.

Clara received the Lord as her personal Savior at age ten in the Methodist Church in Elberon, Iowa. She and Cecil joined the First Baptist Church of Marshalltown in 1942 where she was an active member, serving in any way she could for over 50 years. At age 89 she moved to Louisiana to live with her daughter and son-in-law. She was preceded in death by Cecil, her husband of 51 years; her parents, and her 12 brothers and sisters. She is survived by her devoted daughter, Karen, and husband, Don Toppett, two grandchildren, Scott Toppett and wife Anne, and Holly George and husband, David, and four great-grandchildren, Claire and Matt Toppett and Bryan and Nathan George, plus several nieces and nephews.

Clara was a loving wife, mother, and grandmother. She excelled in cooking, gardening, and sewing. She showed the love of Christ in everything she did and was loved and respected by all of her friends, neighbors, and family. We will all miss her sweet smile, the sparkle in her eye, and her kind, gentle spirit.

Special thanks from the family to Debbie Jacques, who faithfully helped the family take care of "Miss Clara" for many years and was her very good friend, and to the staff at The Village Healthcare at the Glen in Shreveport, Louisiana.