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February 20, 2003

Harriet Toot Jesse

July 31, 1932, to Feb. 11, 2003

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Harriet Toot Jesse, 70, of Orlando, Fla., died of multiple organ failure on Tuesday, Feb. 11, at the Florida Hospital in Orlando.

She was born July 31, 1932, to Leslie and Maude (Condor) Toot of rural Fernald. She graduated from Fernald High School in 1950. She attended Waldorf College in Forest City. After receiving her A.A. Degree in 1952, she worked as a secretary for the Equitable Insurance Company in Des Moines.

She married Douglas (Bob) Jesse of Pontiac, Ill., on March 19, 1955. Because of her husband's military career, the couple lived in several different locations before finally settling in Orlando in 1965. She enjoyed reading, gardening and caring for her family. She was also an Avon sales representative for several years.

Survivors include her husband; two daughters, Susan Jester and Marilea Perez; a son, Michael Jesse; four grandchildren, all of Orlando; and a brother, Delmar Toot of Nevada.

She was preceded in death by her parents and two sisters.

The body was cremated. A memorial service was held Monday, Feb. 17, at the Atonement Lutheran Church in Orlando. The family requests that any memorials be directed to the Cancer Society in her name. These can be sent to: American Cancer Society, 8364 Hickman Rd. - Ste D, Des Moines, Iowa 50325-4374.