

Obituary

Geneal Call Cooper, 91



Geneal Call Cooper died from a sudden onset of acute leukemia on April 3, 2010, at her home in Blackfoot. She was surrounded by loved ones at the time of her death.

Geneal was born on January 15, 1919, in Centerville, Utah, and was the second child born to Sidney and Amy Irene Ford Call. When she was six years old, the family moved to Wapello, Idaho. She attended high school in Firth (she even skipped a grade because she was so smart), was a class officer, and played on the girls' basketball team. She moved to Salt Lake City when she was 17 to attend Henagar's Business College and graduated with a secretarial degree. She went to work for the Safeway Stores in Salt Lake. She met her husband Carl Redford Cooper at a church roller skating party. Since she didn't know how to skate, Carl held her up all night. They were married on December 22, 1939 in the Salt Lake LDS Temple.

Since Geneal had grown up on a farm and she didn't particularly like hoeing beets, picking potatoes, etc., she always said she didn't want to marry a farmer. At the time of their marriage, her husband was a businessman. But after living and working in Salt Lake, Los Angeles, Twin Falls, and Nampa, he decided he wanted to farm. So after six years of marriage, they bought a farm in Wapello and eventually one in Blackfoot. In addition to farming, they had many cows to milk. Geneal went to work for the Department of Agriculture in the ASCS office in Blackfoot and worked there for 36 years.

Geneal was an active member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and had served in many callings—two of her favorites were teaching Primary children and leading the singing in Primary. She also served on the Primary Stake Board. At the time of her death, she was a visiting teacher.

Geneal lovingly cared for her beloved husband for many months before he died of stomach cancer in 1997. Geneal was an eternal optimist—always happy and always cheering people on. She was on a bowling league for many years and loved to attend plays and musical productions. She supported her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren in their many pursuits.

Geneal was preceded in death by her husband, Carl, a granddaughter, Amie Cooper, her parents, and sisters, Amy Howell, Emma Jean Rindfleisch Adams, and Bonnie Bergesen.

Geneal is survived by her daughters, Marilyn (Wade) Anderson, of Rexburg, Carol (Wayne) Mikesell, of Blackfoot, and Debara (Kenneth) Peterson, of Blackfoot; sons, Stephen (Margy) Cooper, of Boise and Brent (Stephanie) Cooper, of Wapello; sister, Elna Marlow, of Idaho Falls; brothers, Ford (Carol) Call, of Firth and Monte (Cherlyn) Call, of Rigby. She is also survived by 18 grandchildren, 48 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandson.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, April 10, 2010 at the Blackfoot LSD Stake Center, 1650 Highland Dr. The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Friday, April 9, 2010 at Hawker Funeral Home, 132 S. Shilling Ave., Blackfoot and again for one hour prior to services at the church.

Interment will be in the Grove City Cemetery. Condolences may be sent to:
condolences@hawkerfuneralhome.com.