

Obituary

Rowena Murdock Merrill, 84

Rowena Murdock Merrill, 84, of Moreland, passed away Sunday, January 4, 2009 in Salt Lake City, Utah.

She was born February 26, 1924 at Thomas, Idaho, to Leo Delbert and Frances Rosetta Dance Murdock. She attended Rockford Elementary School, Wilson Jr. High School, and graduated from Thomas High School. She played the bass horn in the Thomas Band. Following graduation she attended Utah State University for one year.



On July 1, 1943 she married Clifford Gibbs Merrill in the Salt Lake LDS Temple. They made their home in Moreland and later made a second home in St. George, UT. They enjoyed sharing their time between both homes.

She was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and fulfilled many callings including: counselor in Stake Relief Society, counselor in the Sunday School, various callings in Primary, Young Women's, and Relief Society. Rowena was also a faithful visiting teacher for many years and served a mission to the Idaho Falls Visitors Center in 1992.

As a young wife and mother, she devoted her time and talents to her husband, children, and home. When the children were raised she went to work as a Postal Clerk at the Moreland Post Office to help with mission and college expenses. She worked at the Moreland Post office for 25 years.

Rowena enjoyed sewing, quilting, gardening, flowers, playing the piano and violin. She loved the times spent with her family and supporting her children and grandchildren in their activities.

She is survived by her husband of 65 years, Clifford, of Moreland; her children, Annette (Richard) Bair, of Moreland, Roger (Sharon) Merrill, of Middleburg, FL, Sue (Blaine) Pharis, of Mt. Home, ID, Brent (Deborah) Merrill, of Haughton, LA, Kent (Robin) Merrill, of Boise, ID, Gaye Merrill, of Orem, UT, and Jerry (Marianne) Merrill, of Rexburg, ID; brothers, Clinton (Joan) Murdock, of Hurricane, UT, Reed (Darlene) Murdock, of Thomas; sisters, Elaine (Dean) Watt, of Omaha, NE, Wilma Barlow, of Las Vegas, NV; twenty-eight grandchildren, 57 great grandchildren, and 2 great-great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, a daughter, Peggy Lou, her brothers Merlin and Wayne, a sister, Enith, a sister-in-law Rhea Murdock and a brother-in-law, Fullmer Barlow.

Funeral service will be held at 12:00 Noon, Saturday, January 10, 2009 at the Blackfoot Northwest LDS Stake Center, located at the corner of Pioneer and Moreland Roads (740 W. 100 N). The family will meet with friends and relatives from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Friday, January 9, 2009 at Hawker Funeral Home and again for one hour prior to service at the stake center.

Interment will be in the Moreland Cemetery.