

Irene H. Nelson died at the age of 105 on Thursday, January 7, 2010, in a Minot hospital, following a short stay.

Irene was born October 25, 1904, the eldest of five children, to John and Emma (Lunden) Snippen. Her birthplace was the first location of Roseglen, ND, and her homesteading parents, who owned a general store, were the first postmaster and postmistress. When they sold their store in 1916, it and the post office were moved a few miles northwest.

Irene was educated in Roseglen area schools and graduated from Ryder High School in 1924. She received her teaching certificate from Minot State Teachers College and taught in rural McLean County schools for four years.

Irene and Carl R. Nelson were married in Ryder in October 1928. They farmed in McLean and Ward Counties, moving into Ryder in 1937. There Mrs. Nelson was active in women's clubs and church activities. She served as Sunday school superintendent at St. John's Lutheran Church for several years.

On January 28, 1951, Carl died suddenly after fighting a fire for two hours as a volunteer fireman. Irene moved to Minot with her family in August 1951. She was employed at J. C. Penney for fourteen years, retiring in 1968. She was a big Minot Mallards baseball and Minot High basketball fan.

In her retirement, she enjoyed her home and yard, did handiwork, quilted with other Bethany ladies, was a Minnesota Twins enthusiast, and especially loved being with her family. She taught her daughters, grandchildren and great-grandchildren how to make lefse, flatbread, and "Grandma Buns". She also tried several times to teach some of them tatting.

She was preceded in death by her husband Carl, her daughter Shirley Ann Beith in 2007, her parents in 1960, her brothers Lawrence (and wife Hazel) and Maurice Snippen, her sisters Julia Hill (and her husband Floyd) and Myrtle Snippen; and her sons-in-law Jim Beith and Merlyn Rodahl.

Until her 104<sup>th</sup> birthday, she lived by herself in her home on South Main Street and then lived with her daughter, Marlys, in northwest Minot.

She is survived by daughters, Marlys Rodahl, Minot, and Myrna (David) Blackstead of Bismarck; six grandchildren, Londa Rodahl, Bismarck; Carlyn (Maria Adkins) Rodahl, Farmington, NM; Marcia (Sam) Haro, Williston; Terry Rodahl, Farmington, NM; Nola (Dave) Levison, Missoula, MT; and Stacy Blackstead, Bismarck; seven great-grandchildren: Chelsea Rodahl, Farmington, NM; Julie Haro, Minot; Mark Haro, Williston; Malia and Rachel Levison, Missoula, MT; Sharley Rodahl, Farmington, NM; and Luca Adkins, Farmington, NM. She is also survived by her sister-in-law, Thelma Snippen, Minot, and several cousins.