



Fern J. Hays, age 101, of Washington, Iowa, died Monday, September 17, 2007 at the Washington County Hospital following a short illness.

Celebration of Life services will be held 10:00 am Friday at the United Methodist Church with Rev. Julie Poulsen officiating. Visitation will begin 12:00 pm Thursday at the Jones - Eden Funeral Home where the family will receive friends from 6:00 until 7:30 Thursday evening. Interment will take place at the Elm Grove Cemetery in Washington. Memorials have been established for the Washington County Hospital Foundation, Halcyon House or the United Methodist Church. Online condolences may be sent to Fern's family through the web at www.jonesfh.com.

Fern was born December 7, 1905 in Bloomington, Indiana the daughter of Morton and Flora (Hall) Deckard. She attended country school in Indiana. On April 18, 1922 Fern was united in marriage to Elmer Hays in Nashville, Indiana. They lived many years in Louisa County near Cotter and moved to Washington in 1959.

Fern worked in the Surgery Department of the Washington County Hospital for over forty years. In her later years she did sewing for the Hospital and McCreedy Home. She continued her dedicated work until six months ago.

She was a member of the United Methodist Church, the United Methodist Women and a former member of the Pythian Sisters. She enjoyed playing cards and participating in the activities at Halcyon House.

Fern is survived by three daughters: Ellen Perdock and husband, William of Washington, Iowa; Charlotte Mayer of Mesa, Arizona; and Edith Canott of Hollywood, Florida. She is also survived by six grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, five great-great-grandchildren, one brother, Thurman Deckard of Ellettsville, Indiana; one sister, Mona Thompson of Indianapolis, Indiana; and one sister-in-law, Ellen Forsythe of Noblesville, Indiana.

She was preceded in death by her husband in 1969, one grandson, two brothers, Ervin and Ralph Deckard and four sisters, Gladys Lucas, Zelva Ault, Vernice Bohall and Faye Ogden.