



WAKEMAN

Velma Grace Wakeman, of Milliken, passed away on July 29, 2013. She was 98.

Mrs. Wakeman was born Sept. 2, 1914, in Milliken, to Arch Lee (Archie) and Laura Nancy Rosetta Knutter Mellon.

She attended Milliken High School and graduated in 1932.

On May 27, 1937, she married Reginald (Rex) Wakeman. Mr. Wakeman passed away Nov. 1, 1983.

With the exception of a few years during World War II, she lived in Milliken all her life until 2008, moving to assisted living facilities in Greeley and Evans.

Mrs. Wakeman was “active” in the Milliken Presbyterian Church all her life, serving on many boards, committees, and associated organizations. She sang in the church choir for many years, as well as serving as the Sunday School pianist.

She belonged to the Refulgent Rebekah Lodge for 50 years, the Milliken Woman’s Club for 30 years, and the Nimble Thimble (social club) for more than 50 years.

She volunteered for the Milliken Seniors Center meal program, as well as volunteering for the America Reads program by reading with Weld County Re-5J School District grade-school students during the week.

Among other awards, in 2000 she received the Weld County “Outstanding Service Award” for her volunteer work in the RSVP program. She was a member of RSVP for more than 30 years. She was the Honored Senior for Milliken Beef ‘N Bean Day in 2003.

Prior to her “retirement,” she worked at the County Clerk’s office, Woolworth’s 5 & Dime, both potato docks in Milliken, Johnson’s Corner, served as the Milliken Post Office rural carrier for 10 years, and many in the local community remember her as “the Avon Lady,” having sold Avon for many years.

Mrs. Wakeman enjoyed her flower gardens and playing the organ and piano. She maintained a scrapbook collection – 48 scrapbooks, beginning in the 1920s – containing a great deal of historical information of the local history of Milliken and Weld County.

She is survived by her three children, Janice (Ken) Williams and Richard (Peggy) Wakeman of Milliken, and Larry (Cindy) Wakeman of Greeley; seven grandchildren, Keith (Yoshiko) Williams, Deborah (Bob) Kirkman, Kristin (Craig) Eidson, James Wakeman, Mindy Wakeman, Jeff Wakeman, and Keri (Derek) Edberg; nine great-grandchildren; one step-great-grandson, two great-great-grandchildren, and two step-great-great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Milliken Presbyterian Church, the Milliken Senior Center, and the Milliken Historical Society.

A Celebration of Life service is scheduled for 3 p.m. Wednesday (Aug. 7), at Milliken Presbyterian Church, 201 S. Olive, with viewing one hour prior to the service. Private interment will be at Sunset Memorial Gardens in Greeley.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.adamsonchapels.com .

Editor's note: The Johnstown Breeze runs obituary news free of charge. For information, call 587-4525.