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Kleppinger Funeral Home

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Katherine Irene (Kemmerer) Ross

Katherine Irene (Kemmerer) Ross, 92, the daughter of Ferd and Bertha (Queen) Kemmerer, was born on January 8, 1921, in rural Jewell, KS. She passed away Sunday, January 20, 2013 at the Resident Care Center, Mitchell County Hospital, Beloit, KS.

Katherine was the oldest of four children. She attended school in rural Jewell County and received her diploma from Jewell Rural High School. Later she continued her education at Kansas State Teacher's College in Emporia, KS, and Fort Hays State University.

She was united in marriage to Franklin H. Ross on May 24th, 1942 in Jewell, Kansas. To this union two children were born. They made their first home in Topeka, Kansas and later returned to Jewell, where Katherine taught at Mankato Elementary School and Jewell Elementary School.

She enjoyed reading, spending time with her growing family, camping, and church activities. She was a member of the United Methodist Women, J-Janes, and a board member of Solomon Valley Hospice.

Katherine was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Franklin; a son, Franklin Ross Jr.; a daughter, Marilyn (Ross) Topliff; a brother, John Kemmerer. She is survived by grandchildren Eric Ross and friend Kimberly Gavin of Vail, CO, Angela Cleary and husband Rodney of Jewell, KS, Brian Ross of Portland, OR, Aaron Topliff and wife Michelle of Jewell, KS, Selena Ross and husband Eddy Bringleson of Portland, OR, Adam Topliff and wife Jennifer of Wamego, KS, and Amy Topliff of Jewell, KS; 16 great-grandchildren; and one great-great grandchild due this summer; sister Mildred Hutchcraft of Plainville, KS, brother Robert Kemmerer of Beloit, KS, along with many other friends and family.

Services will be held at Trinity United Methodist church, Jewell, at 1 p.m. on Thursday. Pastor Jim Rice will officiate.

Visitation will be from 2 to 8 p.m. Wednesday with the family greeting friends from 6 to 8 p.m. at Kleppinger Funeral Home, 409 Broadway Jewell, KS 66949.