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Kleppinger Funeral Home

409 Broadway Jewell, Kansas 66949

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Thelma E. Rice – Wichita, KS

Thelma E. Rice, 92 yrs, passed away March 1, 2012 in Wichita. She was born to Ralph and Louise (Haseltine) Norton on July 5, 1919 in Carr Creek township in Mitchell County, KS.

Thelma attended the first 8 grades in Haseltine School , Pleasant Plains, south of Cawker City , KS . She graduated from Cawker City High School in 1937. She married Francis E. Rice and born to this union were: Gerald, Larry, Deanna and David.

Thelma and Francis lived in Ionia, KS until 1952, before moving to Wichita, where Francis found employment for Boeing Airplane Factory.

After her husbands death, Thelma worked at Envision in Wichita before retiring. She enjoyed gardening and tending her flower beds. One of her special pastimes was crocheting.

Preceding her in death were her parents, Ralph and Louise Norton, husband Francis E. Rice and son David L. Rice, and sisters Freida Beam and Lillian Dooley.

Thelma is survived by sons; Gerald & Sharon Rice, Wichita, Larry & Rose Rice, Wichita, a daughter Deanna Stewart, Indian Trail, North Carolina,; a sister, Celia Kincheloe of Laramie, Wyoming, numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Visitation will be from 10:00 to 12:00 a.m., Monday, March 5, 2012 at Kleppinger Funeral Home, 409 Broadway, Jewell, KS 66949, which is handling arrangements. Funeral services will be Monday, at 2:00 P.M. at the Funeral Home. Memorials may be given to Harry Hynes Hospice-Wichita or Wichita Presbyterian Manor.