



Birdell Paine Butson

December 2, 1920 - July 24, 2014

Birdell Paine Butson (formerly of Geneva, IA) died on July 24 at Avista Home in Houston, Texas. She was born on December 2, 1920 to Paul (Jim) Paine and Blanche Bird Paine. She was preceded in death by her parents, Robert Butson, husband, and three brothers Birwinn, Norlinn, and Marvinn. Birdell was born at the Bird family farm called Hickory Hill, which is located south on Highway 65. She attended McKenzie Country School and graduated from Hampton High School in 1938. She briefly attended Iowa Teachers College in Cedar Falls, IA, and taught at McKenzie Country School. On May 24, 1941 Birdell was married to Robert (Bob) Butson. They lived in Galesburg, IL and Dayton, Ohio, before returning to the Geneva area to farm in 1947. Until moving to Houston, TX, in 2007, Birdell was active in many civic and community organizations. She was a founding member of the Franklin County Historical Society, researched and wrote grants that designated the Leander Reeve House and the REA Plant on the National List of Historic Places & Buildings List. She wrote newspaper article, Nuggets of History, which became a book of the same title. Birdell was the first rural member of the Hampton Library Board. During the 1950's, the Franklin County Farm Bureau Women's Heritage Committee began a project searching for farms that had been in the same family for over 100 years. Birdell wrote several articles for this initiative that recognized the farms, pioneers, and their descendants. Birdell is survived by three children, Gary (Linda) Butson of Silver Spring, Maryland, Gail (Les) Maifeld of Burnsville, Minnesota and Gloria (Dan)

Burggraf of Tomball, Texas, eight grandchildren and thirteen great grandchildren. Burial will take place in the Lindenwood Cemetery in rural Geneva, Iowa. Memorials may be directed to the Franklin County Historical Society or the Hampton Public Library.

Tribute Wall



“ *Birdell Paine Butson*

Betty Flint - July 30, 2014 at 03:41 PM