

# Winnifred E. Kennedy

November 3, 1917 – February 4, 2005

Funeral services for Winnifred Ernestine “Winnie” (Chappell) Kennedy, 87, will be conducted at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 9 at First Christian Church in Wheatland, with Pastor Andy Gudahl and Pastor David Dick officiating. Interment will be in the Wheatland Cemetery.

She died at Windsor Health Care Center in Windsor, Colo., on Friday, Feb. 4, 2005.

Winnie was born Nov. 3, 1917, in Tacoma, Wash., the daughter of William Buford and Harriet Alfretta “Hattie” (Moore) Chappell. She lived in Washington, Oregon, California, and Colorado. She attended Pasadena Junior College and graduated from the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, Colo. Winnifred and her brother, Willard, spent a lot of time with relatives in the North Park and Walden areas of Colorado. Her first teaching job in this area was in 1947 at Cozy

Hollow School in rural Albany County where she had one student. After a year, she came to Platte County to teach for a year before she married Harold Glen “Pete” Kennedy who ranched up on Tunnel Road. They were married in Laramie on Sept. 8, 1950. After her marriage, she returned to Cozy Hollow School in 1950 and taught her nephew, Jerry Kennedy for six years. In 1956, Pete and Winnie traveled to Chicago, Ill., where Pete attended Coyne Electronic School while Winnie worked at a bank. They returned to the Kennedy Brothers Ranch and Cozy Hollow School in 1957 where she finished Jerry’s eighth-grade year. Pete and Winnie then moved to Wheatland where “Mrs. Kennedy” began her 34 years of teaching in the Wheatland School system. “Mrs. Kennedy” retired from teaching May 24, 1982. Winnie had been a member of the United Church of Christ in Wheatland, Dorcas Society, National Education Association, as well as being active in Delta Kappa Gamma, Laramie Dell Women’s Club, Bridge Club, and the American Association of University Women. After she retired,



“Winnie” Kennedy

she joined the Town and Country Garden Club and spent much time at the flowerbed near Lewis Park.

Winnie was known to have an amazing ability to recognize and remember the names of her students. Many times past students would approach Winnie and say, “Do you remember me?” She would smile and more often than not call them by name and ask about brothers, sisters, and parents that she had taught.

She always said the boys were the hardest to recognize as they grew up.

Winnie will be remembered as a loving person: she loved teaching and her students; she loved her husband, “Pete”; she loved people and never met a stranger; she loved to help others in any way she could; she loved to walk (quickly); she loved to smile; she loved the night sky; she loved to sing and read her Bible; she loved her family; she loved birds and nature; she was loved by those who came in touch with her.

Survivors include her nephews and nieces and their spouses, Jerry and Evelyn Kennedy and W.E. “Gene” and Joyce Kennedy all of Rock River, Willard Ray “Bill” and Nita Chappell of Seattle, Wash., Robert Bruce and Eiko Chappell of Denver, Colo., John and “Bunney” Kennedy of Kearney, Neb., Gerry E. and Doug Gifford of Boulder, Colo., and Roberta and Bart Barge of Arlington, Texas.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Pete on Sept. 23, 1986; and a brother, Willard Chappell. Serving as pallbearers will be Gary Kennedy, Marty Kennedy, Craig Kennedy, Kelly Kennedy, Dan Brecht, and Lee Johnson. Honorary pallbearers will be all of her many friends.

Memorials to Shriner’s Hospital for Crippled Children, Virginia Street at Fairfax, Salt Lake City, UT 84103 would be appreciated by the family.

Family and friends may call at the funeral chapel on Wednesday from 9 to 12 Noon. Gorman Funeral Homes - Platte Chapel of Wheatland is in charge of the arrangements.