

# Allene Judson Mers

October 18, 1918 – June 9, 2005

Allene Judson Mers died Thursday morning, June 9, 2005, at Wind River Healthcare in Riverton. She was 86 years old.

Services were held Tuesday, June 14, at the United Church of Christ in Wheatland. The service was conducted by Ron Hirst of Cheyenne and Pastor Scott Hirano of the United Church of Christ of Wheatland.

Inurnment followed at the Mers family plot at the Wheatland Cemetery. Cremation has taken place.

Allene Judson was born on Oct. 18, 1918, in Des Moines, Iowa, to Elza and Bertha Judson. When she was quite young, the family moved to Orpha, Wyo., where a number of members of the Judson family had taken out homesteads.

She was educated in the country school at Orpha until she reached high school. At that time, she went to Casper and lived with family friends and attended Natrona County High School, graduating in 1936. She attended one year of college at Graceland College in Iowa and then returned to Wyoming.

Her family then moved to Torrington but Allene went to Wheatland with another family friend to watch her two children while she taught in a country school. When they arrived in Wheatland, the school needed another teacher so she became the teacher of grades five through eight with one year of college and at only 20 years of age. Her parents later moved to Wheatland as well.

In Wheatland, she met and married L.E. "Ed" Mers of Slater on Nov. 22, 1942. When he returned from World War II, the couple farmed on the Slater flats southeast of Wheatland on the Mers family farm.

Mrs. Mers was a homemaker until both of her children were in school, at which time she returned to teaching in Platte County rural schools. The state of Wyoming ruled that in order to continue teaching, all teachers had to have a BA/BS degree by 1960. Mrs.



**Allene Mers**

Mers and her sister attended summer school in Laramie and took correspondence courses until both finished their degrees in the summer of 1960. At that time, Mr. and Mrs. Mers moved to Torrington because her country school had closed and she was hired to teach first grade in Torrington. She continued to teach in Torrington until she retired in 1976.

Following her retirement, from 1979 to 2001, Mr. and Mrs. Mers traveled in their motor home, wintering in the Rio Grande Valley of South Texas.

Her family said Mrs. Mers enjoyed crafts, her church, walking, her grandchildren, and square dancing. The couple traveled to England and China with their square dance group and even danced on top of the Great Wall of China. Also in their travels, they were in every state with the exception of West Virginia.

In the summer time, the couple returned to Wyoming and were with their daughter, Gay, and her family in Riverton.

Mrs. Mers was preceded in death by her parents, and two brothers, Albert and Dean.

She is survived by her husband, Ed of Riverton; a sister, Betty of Denver, Colo.; her two children and their spouses, Gary and Paula Mers of Spanaway, Wash., and Gay and Mike Hughes of Riverton; grandchildren, Shay McBride of Seattle, Wash., Michelle Morgan of Dallas, Texas, Connie Hetzel of Colorado Springs, Colo., Mike Mers of Boise, Idaho; Tavy Hostetter of Spanaway, Brandi Musgrave of Reno, Nev.; Drew Hughes of Riverton, and 10 great grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the Alzheimer's Association in care of the Davis Funeral Home, 2203 West Main, Riverton, WY 82501.

Local arrangements are under the direction of the Davis Funeral Home.