

November 14, 1910 – May 31, 2006

Funeral services for Martha Frances Smith, 95, were conducted at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, June 3 at the First Christian Church in Wheatland, with Pastor Andy Gudahl and Pastor John Johnson officiating. Interment will be in the Wheatland Cemetery.

She died Wednesday, May 31, 2006, at Platte County Memorial Nursing Home in Wheatland.

Martha was born Nov. 14, 1910, in Middletown, Ind., the daughter of Louie Lavina (Sharp) and Luther Calvin Mills. The family moved to Wyoming when Martha was just a few months old. Their belongings arrived at Uva, Wyo. on an immigrant train and the family lived in a tent. They homesteaded on Fish Creek. She attended grade school in Uva and then high school in Wheatland. On July 27, 1929, she married Robert Edward Smith at her parents' home near Wheatland. They moved to Washington for a few years; but, returned to Platte County until May of 1948 when they moved to Douglas. In June of 1979, they moved back to Wheatland. She was a past member of the Cottonwood Club and Dwyer Club and was a member of First Christian Church. She enjoyed embroidery work, gardening, and had a love for most animals. Martha was given a yeast starter for bread when she married in 1929; and, kept it alive until she gave it to her daughter (in its

original container) in 2003. As she always made her own bread, she figured out how to convert her bread-making ingredients to a modern day bread machine.

Survivors include three children, Edward Smith and wife, Ruth of Douglas, Alice Woolsey and husband, George of Wheatland, and Wilma Hannifin and husband, Rick of Cody; a sister, Bertha Griffiths of Douglas; 12 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; and 2 great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Robert on January 10, 1993; a daughter, Betty Hytrek; and three siblings, William Mills, Margaret Chroninger, and Olga Schooley.

Serving as pallbearers will be Kenny Lee Jones, William L. Sturgeon, Robert G. Woolsey, Gordon A. Smith, John Calvin Hytrek, and Vincent Robert Hytrek. Honorary pallbearers will be Dave Crowfoot, Jerry Bales, Bill Buchanan, Danny Cayton, Allen Payseno, and all of her friends and neighbors.

The family would appreciate memorials to First Christian Church, 95 – 19th Street, Wheatland, WY 82201.

Gorman Funeral Homes – Platte Chapel of Wheatland is in charge of the arrangements.