



Mildred Pierce

December 5, 1909 - November 16, 2011

Mildred D. Pierce, 101, died Wednesday, Nov. 16, 2011, at Western Home Communities Martin Center in Cedar Falls. She was born in Sanborn, Iowa to Dale and Alice Frame Dick. She graduated from Sanborn High School in 1927 and worked in the telephone office by day and played for the silent movies at night to obtain money for college. She attended Iowa State Teachers College for two years and taught one year in an O'Brien County school prior to her marriage to Robert Pierce August 17, 1930.

During World War II, Mrs. Pierce worked at many jobs ranging from clerking at J.C. Penny to cleaning dorm rooms for the WAVES stationed at ISTC. In 1952, when her son and daughter were both attending ISTC, she enrolled and completed work on her BA. She then accepted a teaching position and later was a teaching principal at Humbert Elementary School in Cedar Falls. During her tenure in the CF schools, she spent three summers at Stanford University working with the National Science Foundation developing curriculum for primary teachers.

After completing a MA and a Specialist in Education Degree, Mrs. Pierce was offered a position on the faculty at UNI where she taught until her retirement in 1972. In retirement, she and her husband traveled widely in the US and Canada camping in their VW bus.

Mrs. Pierce was preceded in death by her husband, Robert, in 1987. She is survived by her son Robert Pierce and his wife Joan of Houlton, WI; her daughter Patricia Briggs and her husband Donald of Hancock, NH; six

grandchildren and thirteen great grandchildren.

At a date to be determined, the family will gather in Wisconsin to hold a celebration of Mrs. Pierce's life. Memorial gifts may be made in her memory to the Cedar Falls Public Library or the Friends of Western Home Communities in Cedar Falls. Richardson Funeral Service is assisting the family.

Condolences may be let at www.richardsonfuneralservice.com.

The family would like to thank all those friends who visited and assisted Mrs. Pierce while she was living in her home. Without their help she would have been unable to remain there as long as she did. She continued to enjoy their help and companionship when she moved to the Western Home. Her family would also like to thank the staff at the Western Home and Martin Center for the vigilant and loving care they offered in her final years.

Tribute Wall

SV

“ *My grandma was a incredible women. She lived her life true to her beliefs of leaving a minimal impact on the environment, but she left a tremendous impact on me. She will be greatly missed by her family.*

Sarah VanValkenburg - March 29, 2013 at 02:49 PM

GC

“ *Mrs. Pierce was my 1st grade teacher for school year of 1953/1954. Still have fond memories of that time and her patience with me. I am sorry for your loss.*

gary craver - March 29, 2013 at 02:49 PM

PH

“ *Bob and Jo - Don and Patty,*

Condolences on the lost of your Mother. What a remarkable life!

Paul and Jane Hogan

Paul and Jane Hogan - March 29, 2013 at 02:49 PM

CH

“ *Dear Pat and Family*

So sorry to hear about your Mom and even though her death was expected it is still hard to lose one's Mom! You and your family are in our prayers!

Connie & "Gordon

Connie Hansen - November 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM