

Obituary for Mae Tweeten, written by Ruth Tweeten Holtan

Mae Elise Dahlby Johnson Tweeten was born May 7, 1896, the fourth daughter of Amund and Elsie (Kittleson) Dahlby in Kensett, IA.

She attended school at Joice and was confirmed at Concordia Lutheran Church. When she was a sophomore at Lake Mills High School, her mother was critically ill so she didn't go further in school as the rest of her family had done.

When she was sixteen, she joined her parents, 3 brothers and 2 sisters in pioneer homesteading near Beechy, Saskatchewan, Canada. On December 26, 1915, she was married to a young homesteader Oscar Julius Johnson at Beechy. Oscar died June 27, 1918 from a farm accident and is buried at Outlook, Canada. A son, Komer, was born to them January 6, 1917 in Canada.

She returned to Lake Mills with her young son and lived with her parents across the street from Salem church. During the building of the new church, she prepared meals for the carpenter crew. She was later employed at the Lake Mills Telephone Company.

On March 4, 1923, she was joined in marriage to Gilbert B. Tweeten of rural Joice. They lived on the home farm until March 1955 when they moved into their new home on South Grant in Lake Mills.

From 1930-1932 they lived in Las Vegas, New Mexico, so she could recover her health from tuberculosis.

She cared for Mr. Tweeten until his death June 14, 1970 and she continued to live in her home until July, 1982, when she became a resident of the Lake Mills Care Center.

She is survived by Komer Johnson of Nevada, Iowa, Mrs. Stanford (Ruth) Holtan of Forest City, James of Lake Mills, Stanley of Kensett, Dr. Luther of Columbus, Ohio, Maynard of Joice, Mrs. Leonard (Olive) Gilbertson and Alvin Tweeten, both of Forest City. Also surviving are 28 grandchildren, 42 great grandchildren, and one great, great grandchild.

Preceding her in death were her parents, Mr. Johnson and Mr. Tweeten, five brothers and four sisters. None of her Dahlby in-laws survived her. Also preceding her in death were twin granddaughters and a daughter-in-law.

Mrs. Tweeten was active in the life of her church community at Winnebago Lutheran Church, where she was a long-time Sunday School teacher and officer of the women's organization. She continued to be active in the Salem church community, especially the Lutheran World Relief sewing group.

Her family remembers her deep faith through grief and illness and her pleasure in her family. She enjoyed hosting her friends and family. Blessed be her memory to all who follow after her.