)BITUARIES

George A. Howell Sept. 22, 1920 - Aug. 3, 2008

Park, passed away Aug. 3, 2008. Services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at St. Mark's United Meth-

odist Church, 6422 Santa Fe, Overland Park.,



Mr. Howell

prior to the service. Burial with military honors will follow at Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens, Kansas City, Kan. Memorial contributions may be made to Good Shepherd Hospice of Mid-America, 7611 State Line Rd, Suite 200, Kansas City, Mo. 64114 or the Susan G. Koman For The Cure, P.O. Box 413247, Kansas City, Mo. 64141.

Mr. Howell was born Sept. 22, 1920 in Norton, the son of Avery and Sallie (Keep) Howell. He was an Army veteran of WWII and served as a radio operator in India and Burma.

He was a truck driver for Safe-

George A. Howell, 87, Overland way Stores and retired after 26

years of service. Mr. Howell was a member of St. Mark's United Methodist Church; Swingin' Singles Square Dance Club and the Mustangs Square Dance Club.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Emma Lee Howell; a daughter, Bonnie Nevans; and a brother, Kenneth Howell.

Survivors include his wife, Phyllis J. (Stutsman) Howell; two children, David A. Howell and wife Sandie and Shirley A. Cronin and husband Keith; three stepchildren, Debbie Mikijanis and husband Philip, Alan L. Johnson and wife Gina and Joel C. Johnson and wife Julie; a sister, Lura White; and 11 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Fond memories and condolences for the family may be left at www.dwnewcomers.com.

Arrangements are by D.W. Newcomer's Sons Overland Park Chapel, 8201 Metcalf, Overland Park, Kan. 66204 (913) 648-

Eva I. Wendel Sept. 28. 1925 - Aug. 2, 2008

Clem and Hazel (Lambert) Alex- to Norton. ander, was born Sept. 28, 1925, in Norton, and passed away at the Andbe Home in Norton, on Aug. 2, 2008, at the age of 82.

She grew up in Norton and attended the local school. On Aug. 3, 1946, she and Elton Rex Wendel were united in marriage in Sabetha.

They made their home in Norton, Herndon, and St. Francis, Chapel, Neb., and Phillipsburg before returning to Norton.

Mrs. Wendel was a cook at the Norton State Hospital for many years until her retirement. Her husband, Rex, passed away July 16, 2004. Following his death, she moved to Kearney, Neb., for is handling arrangements.

Eva I. Wendel, daughter of a short time and then moved back

She was a member of the Norton Christian Church.

Survivors include two sons, Kenneth Wendel, Kearney, Neb., and Robert Wendel, Fairfield, Neb.; one sister, Ila DeYoung, Pharr, Texas; two grandchildren; other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, and one brother, Asa Alexander.

The graveside service and burial will be held Thursday at 10 a.m. at the Norton Cemetery.

Memorials to the Hospice Services of Norton County are sug-

Enfield Funeral Home, Norton

I was a World War II pinup girl!

LEMONADE' N LIGHTNIN'

The porch steps are splintery but I don't care. Here, leaning up against the corner post, no one notices me or suggests that it's past my bedtime. No one has said "little pitchers have big ears," which is one of those mysterious things grown-ups seem to repeat whenever the conversation gets interesting and then, suddenly, it's not interesting anymore. We were together for a picnic dinner today because my cousin Allan is leaving to go in the Army Monday.

Not that anyone is talking much on this warm summer evening. Aunt Mabel, Aunt Florence and my mama are squeaking softly, back'n forth in the porch swing. I think Mabel is crying. Uncle Jack, Uncle Jim, Daddy and Grandpa are just a dark cluster out on the lawn. They're talking and I can see little glowing red spots at the end of cigarettes in the dusk. I want to go over there and listen but I know they'll stop talking if I do. Something is really wrong and no one will tell me what it is. It makes me want to cry, too.

It's dark now so I run fetch a Mason jar and catch lightnin' bugs on the lawn. Love to come to Aunt Mabel's house. This afternoon it was really hot so they let me run and play in the sprinkler ring in my underpants. Allan took pictures of the family to take with him, even me in the sprinkler. After that we picked mulberries from the big tree in the backyard and went down to the dairy barn to watch milking time. Now, on the porch,

blossoms scents the cool darkness. Aunt Florence comes out with the big blue sailboat pitcher chinking with ice in lemonade and we all have a glass to sip.

It is nice, watching the stars come winking out, watching warm yellow lights pop up in nearby houses, watching my jar of twinkling bugs. Still, nothing is quite right.

Allan sits down beside me on the steps, gives me a hug. I say "I don't think it's a good idea for you to go away. Everyone is so sad. Do you truly have to go?"

'Well, I'm pretty sad to go,' he told me softly. "But, you see, I want there to always be nights like this. Safe places for little girls to run in sprinklers and catch fireflies and drink lemonade, always be family picnics and pheasant hunting dinners and Thanksgiving football. I want to work wheat harvest, for Dad to have his dairy and Grandpa his store just the way they are now. But see, there are some bad people in this world who want to take all those happy times away from us. It's like when an ink bottle spills. If you don't stop it, clean it up, everything will be spoiled. And if we guys don't go mop up this messy war and stop it, it'll spoil everything, too. I really have to go so there'll always be lemonade and lightnin' bugs and little girls.'

Come Monday most of Hill City went down to the bus station to wave good bye. There were a lot of Graham County boys getting on

the sweetness of hot honeysuckle ging and promises to write letters and girls kissing boys and it was all sad. And it was even sadder when the bus pulled out. We stood there and watched until it was clear out of sight. But I knew they had to go and now I knew why, because Allan had explained it all to me.

EPILOGUE: Our family was blessed. Allan did come home, with malaria his only lasting souvenir from his years as a bombardier in World War II.

Years later at another family picnic, he pulled a ragged little snapshot out of his wallet to show me. There I was, standing in the

Child of the 40's Liza Deines



sprinkler in my pink silk underpants. "I carried you in my pocket on every mission," he told me, 'and I used to ask my buddies if they wanted to see a picture of a naked girl. Of course they always said yes and I'd pull this out and pass it around. I'll bet you'll never know how many homesick GI's you cheered up.'

And I'll bet no one who knows me today would believe I was once a WW II pinup girl!



that bus, a lot of crying and hug-

 Steak and seafood night, Thursday, 6-9, American Legion. Members and guests wel-

Jake Durham of Norton has a month left in Hays for treatments. Anyone wishing to send a

card or note to him can address it to: Vagabond Motel, 2524 Vine, Hays, Kan. 67601.

- Don't forget, the polls are open until 7 p.m. today. Please vote. (Telegram reminder)

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The Norton Telegram

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Amber and Todd Couple to wed August 8

Amber Dawn Houser and Todd Tom Nuttycomb of Logan. He Norton Nuttycomb of Logan, are will continue to manage the family now engaged.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Marjorie Richard of Edmond, and is currently employed at Norton Animal Health Center Ltd. as a veterinary technician.

The future groom is the son of

farm and raise cattle. Both are graduates of Logan

High School. The couple will marry Aug, 8 at the First United Methodist Church

in Norton. A reception follows at the Ea-

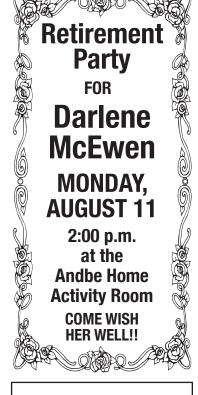


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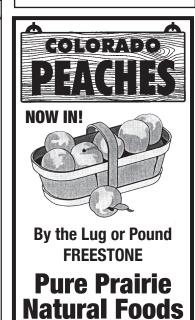
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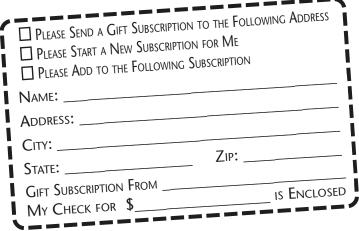
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