

# OBITUARIES

## Dardenella Irene Jeffers Weskamp

Feb. 27, 1924 - Jan. 3, 2014

Dardenella Irene Jeffers Weskamp, born Feb. 27, 1924 in McCook, Neb., passed away Jan. 3, 2014 at the Hillcrest Nursing Home at the age of 89.

She was preceded in death by her parents James and Cora (Schoenholtz) Jeffers, brother Todd, sisters Ruth Whaley and Mary Seeman, a grandchild Christopher, great grandchild John, and her husband and love of her life Andrew C. Weskamp.

Dardenella is survived by her sister, Shirley and husband Willis Wagner of Minnesota; her two sons Andrew and Charlene Weskamp of Norton; and Michael and wife Julia Weskamp of Aurora, Colo.; five grandchildren: Daniel and Caroline Weskamp, Andrea and James Buchmeier, Dominic and Kayla Weskamp, Sarah Weskamp, Christopher Weskamp, 10 great-grandchildren and many nephews and nieces. All of whom were so very much loved by her.

Dardenella, also known as Darden, Dard or Dee, grew up in McCook, Neb., and married Andrew Weskamp on Nov. 18, 1939. In 1965 they moved to Denver, Colo., with Andy's job at Burlington Northern Railroad.

Living in Denver was a play-



ground for Darden's love of locating and selling antiques, and decorating homes. She also loved birds and little dogs, and was a joy to watch when she interacted with children. They always knew they were loved and could do anything they tried to do. Darden worked at Singer and JC Penney before retiring in the late 1970's due to health issues.

When Andy retired in 1983 they moved to Norton to be near their oldest son Andy and his family. While there, she teamed up with her sister, Mary, in using their artistic talents to make

porcelain dolls and teach others the skill.

Andy and Darden lived between Denver and Norton off and on until he passed away in 2000, at which time her health wavered. Eventually she moved to Aurora, Colo., to be near doctors and to spend time with Michael and his family. In 2007 she became a resident of Hillcrest Nursing Home in McCook, Neb., where they lovingly cared for her needs.

Needless to say, she will be missed by many.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given in her name. Memorials for the Masses may be given.

Rosary was held on Sunday, Jan. 5, 2014 at Carpenter Breland Funeral Home.

Mass of Christian Burial was on Monday, Jan. 6, 2014 at St. Patrick's Catholic Church with Father Gary Brethour as celebrant.

Burial followed in Calvary Cemetery.

Friends may send condolences online at [www.carpenterbreland.com](http://www.carpenterbreland.com).

Carpenter Breland Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

## Eleanor E. (Wilhelms) Jensen

April 9, 1931 - Jan. 4, 2013

Eleanor E. (Wilhelms) Jensen, daughter of Carl and Ida Wilhelms, was born April 9, 1931 in Blue Hill, Neb. She passed away on Jan. 4, 2013 at the Andbe Home in Norton, at the age of 81.

Eleanor grew up with her brother and four sisters on the family farm near Rosemont, Neb. She attended Rosemont and Blue Hill schools graduating from Blue Hill High School in 1949. On Aug. 19, 1950, Eleanor and Dwain Jensen were united in marriage in Rosemont, Neb. The couple lived in Paris, France and Baltimore, Md., during Dwain's service in the U.S. Army. In 1954 they moved to Norton, where Dwain took a job as an automobile parts salesman. Following Dwain's death in 1981, Eleanor worked for more than 20 years at the Andbe home while continuing to work as a seamstress out of the home.

Eleanor was very active in support of the community with her volunteer work. She was a longtime member of the Norton Eagles Auxiliary. She and Dwain dedicated a great deal of their time to the American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary. For more than 20 years, Eleanor served meals at the Legion as a fundraiser for the Auxiliary. She was the long-time coordinator of the Auxiliary's medical equipment program. She also delivered meals-on-wheels regularly. In addition, Eleanor provided countless hours at The United Methodist Women's Thrift Shop.

Eleanor's favorite activities included spending time with family and friends playing cards, bingo or slot machines, and watching Kansas University Jayhawks games.

Survivors include: her daughter, Marjorie Allen of Norton;

her son Mike, and his wife Andrea, of Overland Park, Kansas; two grandchildren, Chad Allen and his wife Gillian of Lawrence, Kan.; Kristin Tripe and her husband Rhett, of Orleans, Neb.; two great-grandchildren, Callaway Allen and James Allen; and two sisters, Norma Easter of Sacramento, Calif.; and Irma Nejezchleb of Omaha, Neb.

Eleanor was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, her brother, Roy Wilhelms, and sisters Doris Adams and Mona Faimon.

Memorials are suggested to the Norton American Legion Auxiliary and American Cancer Society Hope Lodge of Kansas City.

Funeral services were Tuesday, Jan. 7, at Enfield Funeral Home.

## Traffic fatalities hit all-time low

In the past year there were fewer deaths on Kansas roads than in any other year since the Kansas Department of Transportation began keeping records. In 2013, according to preliminary, unofficial reports there were 344 fatalities, compared to 405 in 2012.

"One fatality is one too many and we are going to work hard to have this number decrease in 2014," said Kansas Secretary of Transportation Mike King. "In Kansas, we strongly emphasize safety in the engineering of our highways and that's an important component to keeping trav-

elers safe."

The previous low was 385 fatalities in 2008, the high was in 1969 when 780 people died. The Kansas Department of Transportation started keeping records in 1947.

"Strategic investment in infrastructure, improvement in our seat belt rate, committed law enforcement and emergency responders, good laws and safer vehicles have all played into this dramatic reduction in fatalities," said Steven Buckley, Transportation Safety Engineer. "While KDOT is committed to improving our roadway system,

we still must rely on drivers to do their part by eliminating distractions, never driving drunk and wearing a seat belt, every trip, every time.

"We are encouraged by this record-setting year, but that is no consolation for the family and friends of the 344 persons lost in traffic crashes," Buckley said. "The challenge to engineers, law enforcement, emergency responders, advocates, and especially drivers for 2014 is to continue the downward trend."

## Gyneth Leota Horak

April 21, 1920 - Jan. 1, 2014

Gyneth Leota Horak, the daughter of Milton Luther Pressnall and Savillah Nancy (Fisher) Pressnall, was born April 21, 1920 at Munden, Kansas and passed away on Jan. 1, 2014 at the age of 93.

She grew up just a few miles northwest of Munden, where she attended country school and later graduated from Belleville High School. After receiving her teaching certificate from Emporia State Teachers College, she began her career, teaching all eighth grades at Albion Country School near Narka, Kansas. After marrying William W. "Bill" Horak on June 24, 1947, they moved to Milford, Neb., where Bill attended trade school and Gyneth taught school. Following their move to Iowa where Bill worked as a mechanic, she continued sharing her love of education with her students, and also when they moved to Alma, Neb. When they moved to Norton she taught first grade until she retired in 1986. Gyneth was

honored with an Outstanding Educator Award in recognition of her 45 years plus of teaching. She also did some part time teaching in the Faith Christian Academy in Belleville following their move to Belleville in 1993.

Gyneth was a member of the Munden Zion Evangelical Church and the VFW Ladies Auxiliary, Belleville. Gyneth was involved in church work, youth groups and enjoyed accompanying Bill on the piano as he played his violin for church services, for the residents of the rest homes and other special occasions. Her music talents included several other instruments. Her tomboy tree climbing early on carried over to her enjoyment of camping, viewing the world from high up, and special times with her nephews, family, and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Bill Horak in 2007, four sisters: Ollie Mosier, Mildred Daven-

port, Orpha Pressnall, and Lois Mulch, and one brother: L. Dale Pressnall.

Gyneth is survived by two nephews: Dwight (Evelyn) Mosier of Centennial, Colo., and Kevin Mulch of Orangevale, Calif.; and one niece: Glenda Mosier of Tempe, Ariz., other relatives, and many friends.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 4, 2014 at the Zion Evangelical Church, Munden, with Pastor Harvey Farnsworth, officiating.

Interment was in the Tabor Cemetery, rural Munden.

Visitation was from 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. on Friday at the Bachelor-Surber Funeral Home, Belleville.

Memorials are suggested to the Zion Evangelical Church or family choice.

Online condolences and information at [www.bachelorsurber.com](http://www.bachelorsurber.com)

Bachelor-Surber Funeral Home, Belleville, was in charge of the arrangements.

## Concealed carry applications set record

The number of Kansans who applied for concealed carry handgun permits last year exceeded the previous one-year record by 50 percent, Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt announced recently.

More than 24,000 Kansans applied for concealed carry handgun permits in 2013.

"Record numbers of Kansans are exercising their Second Amendment rights and taking advantage of the Kansas concealed carry law," Schmidt said. "We're working hard to provide them top-quality customer service in the permitting process."

The 24,181 applications received by the Attorney General's Concealed Carry Licensing

Unit during the 2013 calendar year was more than had been received in any previous calendar year since the program began in 2006. The previous record for a calendar year was 15,707 applications received in 2012.

During the month of December, the Attorney General's Office received 1,036 applications. There were 75,099 active permits as of January 2. The appli-

cations are being processed in an average of 30 days.

The concealed carry licensing program was enacted by the Legislature in 2006 over the veto of then-Gov. Kathleen Sebelius. By law, the program is administered by Attorney General Schmidt's office. More information about the concealed carry licensing program is available at [www.ag.ks.gov](http://www.ag.ks.gov).

## Phileda Nelson

Dec. 21, 1916 - Dec. 19, 2013

Phileda Nelson was born in Chicago County, Minn., on Dec. 21, 1916 to Phillip and Ida Tillman, and passed away at the Andbe Home on Dec. 19, 2013 at the age of 96.

Her father died when Phileda was four years old and her mother later married Walter Ogren. She graduated from high school in Cambridge, Minn., and furthered her education at St. Cloud State, Hartford School in Connecticut, and received her Master's Degree from National College of Education in Evanston, Ill.

Phileda and Franklin Nelson were united in marriage on June 7, 1939 and sailed for Burma to serve as missionaries until 1951. They lived with the Chin people of northwest Burma, except for time during World War II. In 1951, the door to Burma closed for them, however a deep love for the Chin people continued. She enjoyed rich fellowship

with them through letters and visits. Many traveled to Norton to see her until shortly before her death.

From 1952 to 1958 Franklin served as Pastor of Edgewater Baptist Church in Minneapolis and then moved to Chicago where he served as Secretary for the Board of World Missions of the Baptist General Conference. Phileda taught school in Waukegan, Ill. She traveled with Franklin to the countries served at that time by BGC missionaries: the Philippines, Ethiopia, India, Japan, Mexico, Argentina and Brazil.

Upon retirement in 1975 they spent a year in Ethiopia where Phileda taught at Good Shepherd Academy. In 2000 Phileda moved to Norton, to be near her daughters. She resided at Whispering Pines and the Andbe Home.

Phileda was preceded in death by her parents, her hus-

band, Franklin, her brother Bob Ogren, her sister Katherine Youngquist.

She is survived by three daughters: Lois and husband Paul Myers, Karen and husband Barnett Cox, all of Norton; Phyllis and husband Earl Scharnick of Pensacola, Fla.; 11 grandchildren; 34 great-grandchildren.

Burial was in Minneapolis, Minn.

A memorial service is planned for January 12 at 4 p.m. at the Norton Christian Church. Memorials may be sent in her name to the Almena State Bank for Whispering Pines, the Andbe Home or missions in Burma.

**Mabel Malcolm** will celebrate her 100th birthday on Jan. 11, 2014. Her family will host a reception at the Andbe Home in Norton on January 11, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Everyone is invited. Cards may reach her at: Mabel Malcolm Andbe Home, 2101 W. Crane Norton, KS 67654

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A Birthday Card Shower has been requested for **Glenna Sproul** who will be celebrating her 90th Birthday on January 9, 2014. Cards can reach her at the Andbe Home 201 W. Crane Norton, Kansas 67654

Jan. 3- Jan. 8

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NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

**The Almena Area Fire Department**  
Monday, Jan. 20, 2014  
7:00 P.M. at the Almena Community Building

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