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Juanita B. Armstrong 1914 - 2008

CARDWELL -- Juanita Belle (Ballard) Armstrong went home to be with Jesus on March 26, 2008, at the Tobacco Root Mountain Care Center in Sheridan.

Juanita was born on Dec. 15, 1914, in Belgrade to Lillie Belle and George Dudley Ballard. She was the second of eight children.

Juanita was raised in the dry-land farming community of Nigger Hollow (near Millegan Canyon) and attended grade school at the Eureka one-room schoolhouse. She graduated from Cardwell High School, where she played "jumping center" on the girls' basketball team. Even though she was the shortest member of the team, she could jump!

She married George Melvin Armstrong on Dec. 24, 1934. They lived their entire married life in the South Boulder valley, ranching and raising six children.

Juanita worked as clerk of the board and janitor for the Cardwell School for many years. She was relief postmistress for the Cardwell post office and worked at the Cardwell store. She worked at the Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks sign shop in Whitehall until her retirement.

Juanita was a member of the Cardwell Country Women's Club, Randall Chapter, Order of Eastern Star and the Cardwell Community Church.

She loved to sew little cowboy shirts and frilly dresses for all the babies, as well as quilts and afghans for her family.

Juanita was preceded in death by her parents, Lillie and George Ballard; husband, George M. Armstrong; son, James F. Armstrong; daughter-in-law, Cookie Armstrong; and son-in-law, Jim Carmody; sisters, Mickie Smith and Billie Wegner; brothers, Jack, Dudley, and Forrest Ballard.

Survivors include daughters, Jennie Lee (Bob) McArthur and Janice Carmody of Cardwell, Gay (Dave) Forsman of Brady; daughter-in-law, Millie Armstrong; sister, Gussie Smith of Ronan; brother, Tom (Sandy) Ballard of Clancy; sons, George M. (Fay) Armstrong and Forrest Armstrong of Cardwell.

She is also survived by 21 grandchildren, 41 great-grandchildren, and four great-great-grandchildren.

Juanita's remains are at Scott Funeral Home in Whitehall, where friends may call beginning Friday evening. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Monday at Cardwell Community Church, with the Rev. William Grinder officiating. Interment will be in South Boulder Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Tobacco Root Mountain Care Center Auxiliary, P.O. Box 308, Sheridan, MT 59749; or to the donor's choice.

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