Maudie Irene Johnson

March 22, 1918 ~ December 16, 2014

Maudie Irene Johnson formerly of New Plymouth passed away December 16, 2014 in Salt Lake City, Utah at the age of 96.

Funeral services will be December 22 at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, New Plymouth with a viewing from 12 p.m. (noon) to 12:45 p.m., prior to the service. Burial will follow at Park View Cemetery, New Plymouth. Local services are under the direction of Shaffer-Jensen Memory Chapel, New Plymouth.

Born March 22, 1918 in Ely, NV Maudie was the first of nine children born to Raymond and Irene Crosby. Maudie spent most of her childhood in Oklahoma where she was a devoted big sister to her brothers and sisters. After she graduated from Miami, OK High School in 1936 Maudie travelled to Emmett, Idaho to help a relative with child care, it was in Emmett that she met Alven S. Johnson. March 8, 1937 Maudie and Alven went fishing with another couple and concluded that since the fish weren't biting that day both couples should abandon their fishing plans and go get married. Both couples continued to celebrate their shared wedding anniversary for over 40 years.

After their marriage Maudie and Alven made their home in Emmett, Idaho and welcomed four children; Phillip, Mary Jane, Sydney Anne and Beth. Maudie, Alven and their children made a final move to New Plymouth, Idaho where they farmed and raised dairy cows. Desiring to help put her daughters Sydney Anne and Beth through college Maudie took a job as a line worker at Ore-Ida Foods where for over ten years her cheerful demeanor and positive attitude kept her co-workers encouraged through the cold, dark night shifts forging friendships that lasted the rest of her life.

In the late 1960's Maudie wished to spend more time with her grandchildren and to be more available to care for Alven who was in poor health so Maudie made a career change and followed her daughter Mary Jane into real estate working as a sales associate for broker Prescott Wilkie and later brokers Don Newman and Karen Hollis. Maudie's outgoing personality made her a natural at real estate which won her many faithful clients and she enjoyed it tremendously. It was impossible for her to simply drive through the area she lived in without making at least one stop to look at property.

Maudie was an adventurer at heart and she loved learning and exploring and she dragged Alven along for the ride. Each day they would take time to read to each other from the newspaper, magazines and poetry. She and Alven enjoyed rock hunting, gardening, fishing, huckleberry hunting, and camping. A Sunday drive could turn into an impromptu trip to Utah to visit their daughter Sydney Anne and her children, to Reno to visit their son Phillip or to Washington to visit their grandson Rick. The highlight of Maudie's year was the Labor Day family reunion Maudie organized to gather the family she so fiercely loved all in one place.

After 55 years of devoted marriage, Alven passed away February 14, 1992. Maudie remained in their New Plymouth home and continued to work in real estate until her retirement in 1998. Her daughter Beth lived with her until Beth's passing April 4, 2003. Maudie lived on her own with her great grandchildren often keeping her company until her decision to relocate to Salt Lake City, Utah to live with daughter Sydney Anne in late 2003 where she lived until she required staffed care.

Anyone who encountered Maudie will remember what a unique soul she possessed and her sweet, friendly demeanor. She lived a life of strength, kindness, determination, faith, and love. Her family, friends, neighbors and community were tremendously blessed by her presence in their lives.

Maudie is survived by her remaining children Phillip Johnson and wife Emma of Reno, NV

and daughter Sydney Anne Carlston and husband Hal of SLC, UT and grandchildren - Rick Heitz, Russel Heitz, Robin Heitz-Patzer, Jeffery Carlston, Michelle Carlston-Willes, Jason Carlston and Douglas Johnson. Great Grandsons- Nathan Heitz, Ryan Heitz, Sam Patzer and Jesse Willes as well as Great Granddaughters- MaryJayne Patzer, Carly Willes and Bailey Willes and her brothers Dale Crosby, Richard Crosby and Raymond Howie. She is preceded in death by her husband Alven S. Johnson, and her daughter's Mary Jane Heitz and Beth Johnson-Pfost, sisters Dorothy Crosby and Marjorie Crosby, brothers Billy Crosby, Wayne Crosby, and Jack Crosby.