

Bonnors Ferry Herald 7-31-03

Mary Ellen Thomason, 91



Mary Ellen (Viley) Thomason, 91, passed away on July 27, 2003 at the Community Hospital in Bonners Ferry, Idaho. Funeral Services will be held on Thursday, July 31, 2003 at 10 a.m. in the Cross Roads Chapel in Bonners Ferry with a Committal Service at 1 p.m. in the Pinecrest Cemetery in Sandpoint, Idaho.

Mary Ellen was born on Oct. 25, 1911 in Bonners Ferry, Idaho to John R. and Nelle (Brown) Viley, who came to Bonners Ferry from Kentucky in 1910.

She attended grade and high school in Bonners Ferry and graduated from Lewis-Clark Teachers College.

She also attended Whitman College and University of Idaho. She taught school in

Boundary County, Ada County, Payette, Idaho and Sandpoint, Idaho.

On Sept. 1, 1940 she married Howard B. Thomason of Sandpoint, Idaho in Bonners Ferry, Idaho.

They established the Selkirk Hereford Ranch North of Sandpoint in 1950 where they raised purebred Hereford cattle.

Mary Ellen was an active partner in all the operation and very proud of the Selkirk line of cattle. The ranch was sold in 1969.

During the following years, the Thomason's did some farming in the Kootenai Valley and lived in Oregon and on the Flathead Lake in Montana.

In 1986 they moved back to Bonners Ferry where Mr. Thomason died in 1987.

Mary Ellen was a member of the Chapter A.P. PEO in Bonners Ferry and an active community supporter in Bonners Ferry and Sandpoint.

Survivors include several cousins and many loved and loving friends.

Memorial may be sent to the Second Chance Animal Adoption at P.O. Box 1925, Bonners Ferry, Idaho 83805.