

Vesta McCready Neal

ARLINGTON – Vesta McCready Neal, 94, died on Friday, June 1, 2007.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, June 6, 2007, at Eastern Hills United Methodist Church, with burial following in Greenwood Memorial Park.

Mrs. Neal was born in 1913 in Blum to Arthur and Josephine McCready. She attended Rule High School, where she was captain of the women's basketball team. She met Marvin Ellis Neal at a Halloween party and married him on Nov. 24, 1935. They had two children, Mack Ellis Neal and Julie Suzanne Neal Alexander.

During World War II, while Marvin was serving in the Navy in the South Pacific, Vesta lived in Ft. Worth and worked at Consolidated Vultee Aircraft Corporation (now known as Carswell AFB, JRB) working on the B-24 and B-36 planes. After the war, she and Marvin moved to Pasadena, where she worked at Sears Roebuck and retired in 1973.

After retirement, Vesta and Marvin moved to Lake Livingston. Mrs. Neal became very active in the Polk County Garden Club. She served as their president for the 1987-88 year and that year the Garden Club went to the state convention and won the top award. After she stepped down from her year as president, the Garden Club named a scholarship in her honor, the Vesta Neal Scholarship. She became a life member of the Texas Garden Club, Inc. in 1987. In 2007, the club gave a \$1,000 award to a Livingston High School graduate.

She was active in the First United Methodist Church in Livingston. After her husband's death in 1990, Mrs. Neal moved to Ft. Worth to be closer to her daughter and granddaughter. She transferred her church membership to Eastern Hills UMC.

Survivors include her children, Julie S. Alexander and Mack E. Neal and wife Theresa; granddaughters, Heather Alexander McIntyre and husband Sean and Tammy Jones Johnson and husband Mark; grandson, William Clark; great-granddaughters, Katelyn McIntyre and Victoria Johnson and great-grandson, Lliam Clark.

Memorials may be made to the Vesta Neal Scholarship Fund, Polk County Garden Club, 204 Mill St., Livingston, TX 77351 or the Gideon Memorial Bible Fund, c/o Greg Ogletree, 1410 W. Noblitt, Livingston, TX 77351.

Greenwood Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.