

## **Marie VanHook Spence Hayes**

*Methodist and retired nurse assistant*

Marie VanHook Spence Hayes, 91, died Wednesday, July 16, 2003, in a Canton nursing home. She was born in Macon County but lived most of her life in Haywood County.

She was the daughter of the late Carey Walter VanHook and Martha Mattie Higdon VanHook. She was married first to Walter Joseph Spence, who died in 1948 and second to Edwin C. Hayes, who died in 1965. She was the last surviving grandchild of Albert Galington VanHook and Sophia Clarinda Russell VanHook of Macon County. She was a retired nurse assistant for Appalachian Hall in Asheville and was Methodist by faith.

She was preceded in death by her brothers, William Ralph VanHook, Major Roy VanHook, Cecil Carey VanHook, Walter Carl VanHook and Johnny Lenaard VanHook, and her only sister, Dorothy VanHook Keener. She is survived by her son, John Michael Spence and his wife, Haruko Spence, of Clyde, N.C.; her grandson, Robert Spence and his wife, Allison, of Chester, Va., and two great-grandchildren.

Graveside services were held Saturday, July 19, at Clarks Chapel United Methodist Church Cemetery, with Rev. Al Beck officiating.

The family received friends Saturday at Bryant Funeral Home who was in charge of arrangements.

Memorials may be made to Haywood Animal Welfare Association, P.O. Box 992, Waynesville, N.C. 28746.

The Franklin Press, 25 July 2003