Her Legacy… Vera was born on November 8, 1915 at Enloe Hospital. She was the oldest of 7 children born to Jesse and Eunice Cartwright, who farmed in the Durham-Dayton area. The Cartwright family was among the original settlers in Dayton. Vera's great-grandparents came by wagon train from Illinois and the core of the family remains in the Durham-Dayton area today. Vera attended elementary school at the one room school house which was located in Dayton. She lost her vision in her early teens and then attended the Berkeley School for the Blind from 1931 to 1936. After completing school in Berkeley, she worked for the library in Palo Alto, transcribing Braille until 1941, when she returned to Butte County. In 1942, Vera married Morris Schurr. Vera and Morris had two children, Joyce and Michael "Murf". Vera attended the Guide Dogs School for the Blind in San Rafael, CA twice. There, she received her guide dogs, Tony, a German Shepherd, and later, Tara, a black lab after Tony passed away. She was a member of the Butte County Council for the Blind and was honored by that organization in 2005, at the age of 90, with a lifetime membership. Vera was admired and known for her positive attitude and her "can do" and cheerful personality. She never looked back, but always moved forward with the belief that she could accomplish or do anything despite her disability even during times when society generally believed otherwise. Vera liked to laugh and recall many stories of her life and various adventures, including the trip she and her sister, Ila took in a motorhome around the United States, and the time in her "80's", when she went white water rafting in Utah. Vera passed away on Jan. 22, 2012, in Chico, at the age of 96.

Her Family… Her husband, Morris passed away in 1976, and her son, Michael "Murf" passed away in 2011. Her brother, Edward Cartwright, her sisters, Ila Kesterson and Lois Sitnik, and her grandson, Thomas Espinosa, also passed away previously. She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Joyce and Albert Espinosa of Tucson, AZ; daughter-in-law, Linda Schurr of Dayton; her brothers and sisters-in-law, Leroy and Rosalie Cartwright of Dayton, and Wayne and Faye Cartwright of Chico, and her sister, Ann Terrell of Vernal, Utah. She is also survived by her grandsons, Rodney and Joe Espinosa; her great-granddaughters, Brittney and Elena Espinosa; her great-grandson, Ethan Espinosa, and her great-great-grandson, Michael Martinez, all of Tucson, and many nieces and nephews, who she loved deeply.

Her Farewell Service … Graveside Services will be held on Monday, Jan. 30, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. at the Memorial Park Cemetery, 5646 Lincoln Blvd. in Oroville. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Vera's name to the Guide Dogs for the Blind in San Rafael or to the Dayton Cemetery Association, in care of the Ramsey Funeral Home.

Please sign their guest book at www.RamseyFuneralHomes.com

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