Margaret E. Simmons

May 5, 1922
November 22, 2013

Her Legacy… Margaret Evelyn (Ricketts) Simmons was born on May 5, 1922 in Honolulu, Territory of Hawaii (at that time) to Villa Virgil Ricketts and Valborg Coford Rickketts. Margaret passed away on November 22, 2013 in Oroville, California. Margaret was 91 years old. She lived in Honolulu for about 1 ½ to 2 years then moved back to Oroville, her father worked for the power and electric company that became PG&E so they moved to Pulga where they lived for several years and then moved to Storrie when her father Villa got a job at Bucks Creek Powerhouse. She lived at Storrie until she came back to Oroville living with her grandparents and going to Oroville High School graduating in 1940. There was no road between Oroville and Storrie at that time and the only means of travel was by train. Margaret met Hilton in her junior year of high school and they were married in 1942 when World War II started. They went to Reno and were married in the United Methodist Church. Margaret went 1 ½ years to Yuba Junior College before going to Samuel Merrit Nursing School for 3 ½ years then quit to come home as the war ended and Milton came home. He had been in the Canadian Army as he did not become a US citizen until later. Margaret was a wonderful wife and mother. She went to work in 1959 at the Butte County Library and worked there for 20 years, she was an avid reader loved books mysteries the best but would read anything and everything. She did crafts and made Christmas ornaments for the family every year; she crocheted, did needle point knitting and at one time taught a left handed knitting class at a knit store here in Oroville. She loved to camp at Bucks Lake and traveled all over the US including the East coast, Alaska, and Mexico three times, Canada several times in the motorhome with Hilton. She went to Hawaii several times. After retirement she volunteered at the library for years. She appreciated and belonged to a group of friends some of the friends from high school and she really looked forward to their get togethers. She loved to go to the casinos and often went here in town, Reno and Lake Tahoe.

Her Family… Margaret is survived by her daughters, Trudy (Bill) Delp of Tigard, OR; Terri (Tony) Burdine of Oroville, CA; her grandchildren, Christi (Josh) Johnson of Los Angeles, CA; Deana (Jason) Barkley of Oroville, CA; Ryan (Amanda) Delp of Fresno, CA; Jace (Stephanie) Crosswell of Oroville, CA; her great grandchildren, Akaela Barkley, Hilton Johnson & Maycee Crosswell. Included in the family are 3 step granddaughters, 6 step great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by her husband of 60 years Hilton Earl Simmons. They owned and operated Simmons Citrus Ranch for many years after buying it form Hilton’s parents. She is also preceded in death by her parents, her brother Virgil Ricketts, sister-in-law Charmaine Ricketts and her sister Miriam Montgomery and brother-in-law Chester Montgomery.

Her Farwell Service…
Her memorial Service will be held on Monday, December 2, 2013 at 11:00 AM at the United Methodist Church on Acacia Ave. in Oroville. Arrangements are entrusted to Ramsey Funeral Home 530-534-3877. In lieu of flowers please make donations to Friends of the Library, SPCA or The Make A Wish Foundation.