Her Legacy… Sybil Irene Van Sandt passed away in Oroville on January 11, 2010 at the age of 101. She was born in Brigus, Newfoundland on August 21, 1908 to James King & Elizabeth Gushue King. The fourth child of thirteen children she was the only one to be raised by her grand parents. Her grandmother, a very “Victorian” lady believed that “ladies” were meant to spend their time in the arts and needlework. Sybil was an exceptional student. She was knitting by the age of four and would master all areas of needlework. She also learned how to play the piano and played for her church for many years. Sybil was the daughter and granddaughter of Captains of fishing vessels and loved to tell that, at even the age of four her grandfather made sure that she was given the largest lobster of the catch. Walking was the main mode of transportation during Sybil’s childhood and she grew up walking everywhere, a habit that never left her. Until the age of 93 she walked a brisk 2 miles every morning of her life and always alone, as no one could keep up with her. As a young woman Sybil taught school until it became necessary for her to quit and take care of her ill grandmother. She spent many years caring for her until her grandmother’s death. After World War II she immigrated to the United States, became a knitting instructor at Capwells Department Store in Oakland, California, and became a United States citizen. During this time she met the love of her life, Curtis Van Sandt. They married and had 491/2 happy years together before his death in 2001. Their most cherished years were the 22 years they spent on the road as full time RVers where they made many life long friends. When Curtis’s arthritis made it necessary to give up traveling they insisted on finding a level piece of property where their RV friends could park. They built a home on HWY 70 south of Oroville and hosted their friends for the ten years they lived there. Sometimes as many as 23 rigs were there at a time and on 2 occasions they were even reported for having an illegal RV park. Curtis was a farmer at heart and through him Sybil discovered another talent her grandmother would have approved of. She was an excellent gardener. She cultivated a variety of exotic flowers and Curtis grew vegetables that were the envy of all. The last 8 years of Sybil’s life were spent at Prestige Assisted Living where she received loving care until the end of her life. She often said that the Prestige staff was her second family.

Her Family… Sybil is survived by her step daughter Roberta (Bobbie) Johnson and her husband Carroll and Bobbie’s children, Mike Lori, and Brian Hurst. Also brother Frank King of St. Johns, Newfoundland & Shirley Le Brie of Ontario, Canada and numerous nieces and nephews.

Her Farewell Service …Private interment will be held at Burwood Cemetery in Escalon, California. Arrangements have been entrusted to Oroville Funeral Home 530-533-0323

Please sign their guest book at www.RamseyFuneralHomes.com

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