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Eleanor Irene Johnson, 88, of Burwell, Nebraska died October 6, 2012 at her home.

Funeral services will be 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 11, 2012 at the Burwell Baptist Church in Burwell, Nebraska. Burial will be in Cottonwood Cemetery in Burwell. Pastor Rob Pearson and Pastor Stan Gurney will officiate. Visitation will be from 5 - 7 p.m. on Wednesday at Hitchcock Funeral Home in Burwell. Memorials are suggested to the Burwell ambulance supply fund or home health and hospice.

Eleanor was born August 21, 1924 in Kola, Nebraska to Louis and Lillian (Nelson) Barthel. She grew up with her parents on a homestead in southwest Holt County. Eleanor attended country school District 26 and Amelia High School. She graduated from Atkinson High School in 1942. She attended the University of Nebraska at Lincoln for a short time and then taught country schools for six years.

Eleanor married Glenn Marvin Johnson on June 10, 1946 at her parent's home in Holt County near Amelia, Nebraska. They ranched north of Burwell. Glenn died on March 21, 2011.

Eleanor was a member of Cedar Creek Church for over 60 years. She was very active in her church, teaching Sunday School, leading missionary meetings once a month for several years and she started the cradle roll in 1950.

She was a member of the Homemakers Extension Club. She enjoyed sewing, gardening and quilting.

Eleanor is survived by four children: June McLachlan of Lincoln, Nebraska, Mervin and Dawnetta Johnson of Burwell, Nebraska, Lawrence and Cindy Johnson of Burwell, Nebraska, and Kathy and Tim Foster of Barstow, California. Eleven grandchildren and sixteen great-grandchildren. Two sisters, Lois and Virgil Swett of Ericson, Nebraska and Joan Barthel of Coeur D'Alene, Idaho and many nieces and nephews and a sister-in-law, Dorothy Barthel of Amelia, Nebraska.

Eleanor was preceded in death by her parents, husband, three brothers, Kenneth, Calvin and Keith Barthel and a son-in-law, Joe McLachlan.