

Bernice E. Kingdon

Bernice E. Kingdon, age 90, of Monroe, died on Tuesday, March 21, 2006 at Monroe Manor Nursing Home.

She was born in Belleville on May 10, 1915, the daughter of Jacob J. and Elizabeth (Christen) Legler. She was a 1932 graduate of Monticello High School, a 1933 graduate of Green County Normal School and a graduate of U.W. Platteville in the early 60's. After graduating from Platteville, Bernice trained at Southern Colony and St. Colletta's School for the Handicapped. Bernice and Robert N. Kingdon of Monroe were married on June 14, 1939 at Zwingli Swiss Reform Church in Monticello.



Bernice taught at Wallace, Spring Creek and Bright Rural Schools for 11 years. After teaching at Juda Elementary School and South School in Monroe, she taught 28 years in the Monroe School System where she developed much of her own material as their first Special Education instructor. She retired in 1981 after 41 years as an educator. She was a member of Grace Lutheran Church, the Martha Circle, the church choir, and taught Sunday School for people with disabilities for many years. Bernice was the Monroe Outstanding Senior Citizen of the Year in 1964, and Hall of Honor Inductee for the Association for Retarded Citizens of Wisconsin in 1983. She was on the board of directors for Retarded Citizens of Wisconsin in 1983. She was on the board of directors for Wisconsin Badger Camp and a charter member of the Green County Association of Retarded Children. Bernice was a charter member and the first president of the Local Alpha Delta Kappa International Sorority for Women Educators Inc. She achieved the Victor J. Contrucci 1996 Outstanding Service Award from the Wisconsin Council of Developmental Disabilities, for which she received a citation from the Wisconsin Senate commending her many years of service and congratulating her for the award.

She was also a member of Green County Educators Association, Swiss Attic Fanciers Questers of Monroe, Monroe Women's Club, and a staff member of Handicapped Children's Clinic. One of Bernice's many joys was the planning and orchestration of weddings.

Surviving is a daughter, Judith (Lyle) Anderson of Janesville; son, Robert N. Kingdon of Kentville, Nova Scotia; granddaughter, Beth (Robert) LaBeII of Kenosha; great-grandchildren, Reid and James LaBeII. She was predeceased by her husband, Robert; grandson, Daniel R. Anderson-; sister, Ruth Brink; and brother-in-law, Walter Brink.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 AM. on Saturday, March 25, 2006 at GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH in Monroe with Pastor Keith Anderson officiating. Burial will follow in Greenwood Cemetery in Monroe.

Visitation will be from 4:00 to 6. 00 PM. Friday at SHRINER-HAGER-GOHLKE FUNERAL HOME, 1455 Mansion Drive and 18th Avenue in Monroe.