

Obituary
Phyllis M. Cornell

Phyllis Mary Cornell, of Columbus, Ohio, formerly of Friend, was born May 14, 1913, in Friend, Nebraska to William W. "Walt" and Elma B. (Barker) Gordon, and died Wednesday, August 29, 2007, at Riverside Methodist Hospital in Columbus at the age of 94 years, 3 months and 15 days.

Phyllis grew up in Friend and later became a 1931 graduate of Friend High School. She furthered her education by attending Nebraska Wesleyan University in Lincoln where she earned a degree in Vocal Music Education in 1935. On September 17, 1938, she was united in marriage to Melvin Cornell at the Friend United Methodist Church and to this union three daughters, Prudence, Marjorie and GERALYN were born. She loved teaching music to her students in communities of North Loup, Exeter and Friend and also enjoyed singing and directing local church choirs. In addition, Phyllis enjoyed teaching piano lessons to students of all ages. She often talked about her fond memories of growing up in Friend with her pony and her many childhood friends, as well as her happy memories of her college sorority, Alpha Gamma Delta. Phyllis enjoyed square dancing and traveling with Mel during their retirement years. Her family remembers her love of having friends come over, bird watching, gardening and making sure her grandchildren had friends to play with whenever they came to visit. She will be remembered by her family as being the kindest person they have ever known.

Phyllis was a long-standing member of the Friend United Methodist Church and the Order of the Eastern Star, Rose Standish Chapter #265.

Survivors include her two daughters and a son-in-law, Marjorie Cornell of Worthington, Ohio, GERALYN and Daniel Cogan, of Saline, Mich., four grandchildren, Craig Demel, Berkeley, Calif., Teresa Demel, Seattle, Wash., Leslie Adamski and her husband Michael, New York, N.Y. and Adam Cogan of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Phyllis was preceded in death by her parents, William "Walt" and Elma Gordon, an infant daughter, Prudence, and her husband, Melvin in 1989.

Services were held 2:00 p.m. Sunday, September 2, 2007, at the Friend United Methodist Church with Rev. Paixao Baptista officiating. Eastern Star Services were also conducted. Interment was in Andrew Cemetery, Friend. Memorials have been established to the Melvin and Phyllis Cornell Friend Rotary Scholarship Fund. Lauber-Moore Funeral Home, Friend, is entrusted with arrangements.