

Bettina Frances Geesaman, 88, Portland, died Tuesday evening, July 3, 2012 in IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital following a brief illness.

She was the daughter of A. Eyman and Anna (Coulson) Turner, born on March 25, 1924 in Jay County. She graduated from Portland High School in 1941 and worked at Jay Garment Co. for a year. She graduated from Ball State University with a BA in 1946 and MA in 1960. She taught elementary school, art and music for 37 years in Jay and Randolph counties (Indiana) and Arizona. She was an excellent violinist and taught violin for several years. She and her husband also worked at Johnson Bible College, Knoxville, TN, before returning to Portland in 1989. She was known for her gentleness and joy. She was a member of West Walnut St. Church of Christ for many years.

She was married to (Robert) Jay Geesaman in 1948 and was preceded by him in death in 2004. Sisters Iris Myers (Harold) and Sara Louise Funk (William) and brother Charles Turner (Carolgene; Mary) are deceased.

Survivors include Mary Gray (Frank), sister, and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be at Williamson and Spencer Funeral Home, Portland, with burial following in Center Cemetery, west of Portland. Bruce Phillips will officiate. Visitation is 12-3 p.m. on Saturday with funeral at 3 p.m. on Saturday at the funeral home.

Memorials may be directed towards the West Walnut Street Church of Christ or Johnson University. Envelopes are available at the funeral home.

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