

Lucretia Maria Gates, 98, of Falls City died Saturday morning 10 July 2004 at the Falls City Care Center.

She was born 5 March 1906 at rural Peabody, Kansas to Joseph Eastman Hall and Hansigne Olsen She grew up in the Peabody area and graduated from the Peabody High School in 1923. Lucretia attended Oklahoma College for Women, Chickasha, Oklahoma for a year and returned to teach in a country school in Marion County. Later she moved to Newton, Kansas and worked for a time in the Dickey's Jewelry Store.

Lucretia married Silas Newton Gates on 2 Sept. 1928 in her parents' home near Peabody. Mr. Gates died 11 November 1964 in Kansas City.

The couple's early married years were spent working for the Santa Fe Railroad and thus they made their home in several Kansas towns, Wichita, Mulvane, Derby, Newton, Dale, Chelsea, Manchester, and Ada. In the early 1950's they moved to Kansas City, Kansas and resided there until 1996 when Lucretia moved to Eastview Apt., Falls City. In March 2002, she moved into her granddaughter's home at 510 East 15th St., Falls City.

During the years in Kansas City, Kansas, Mrs. Gates was an Avon dealer for 21 year. She was a Life Member of the American Rabbit Breeders Assoc. and Life Member of the Kansas State Rabbit Breeders Assoc. Both Mr. Gates and Mrs. Gates were active members in the domestic rabbit clubs, belonging to the Kaw Valley Rabbit Club, the Progressive Rabbit Club, the Salt Creek Rabbit Club, Hutchinson, Kansas, and the American Chinchilla Specialty Club. Lucretia published this Specialty Club's newsletter for many years. The Gates spent their vacations at the American Rabbit Breeders Assoc.'s annual convention.

She was 25 year plus member of the Eastern Star Lodge in Lyons, Kansas and a charter member of the Ne-Mo-Ka Craft Guild., Falls City, Ne.

Mrs. Gates is survived by a daughter. Cora Hannesina 'Hanna" Shafter, a son-in-law, Clair, of Falls City and two granddaughters Kirsten Joyce Simpson (David), Falls City, Radonna Ann Wesley, Cleveland, Ohio, 2 nieces, 2 nephews, 1 great grandniece and two great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, a daughter, Geneva, a son-in-law, Frank, an infant son, 4 half brothers, half sisters, and a granddaughter.