

MRS. JAMES DIES

Word has been received here of the recent death of Helen Harkrader James in Roxboro. She was buried there.

Helen, 79, was a native of Dobson and was the daughter of Lacey and Lelia Lakey Harkrader. Helen finished Dobson High School in the late 1930s and was valedictorian of her class. After college, she taught school much of the time in the Person County Schools until her retirement.

She married Lester James, who predeceased her. Her brothers and sisters, also reared in Dobson, were Trent Harkrader, who married Sarah Graves and lived in Mount Airy; Vena, who married Fletcher Harris of Mount Airy; Margaret, who married Bill Harris of Roxboro; Ward Harkrader of Richmond; and Lakey Harkrader of High Point. He is the only one yet living.

Dobson natives attending Helen's funeral were Mary Cooper Dobbins and Grady Cooper of Raleigh and Betsy Folger Few of Greensboro. Friends will remember that Lacey Harkrader ran the famous Kenlin Hotel in Dobson until 1961, when his sister, Maggie Lewellyn, died. The hotel was closed immediately.

Miss Maggie was the one who had seen to the cooking, which made the hotel famous in this part of the state. The hotel building was dismantled in 1970 after the hotel had been in existence for 100 years. The site is now a parking lot.

Betty Norman Miller would turn over in her grave if it were not mentioned that the Kenlin was a Republican hotel. It was purchased by Lacey Norman in the 1870s and, later, his daughter, Letitia, and her husband, Solomon Harkrader, ran it in the 1900s.

Lacey Harkrader was their son.

Betty Norman Miller's folks ran the Norman Democrat hotel. Lacey Norman was a charter member of the Dobson Baptist Church.