



Mona Lucy (Eisenhower) Birong

CEDAR GROVE / MADISON - Mona Lucy (Eisenhower) Birong, formerly of Madison, died in Cedar Grove, Wis., on Tuesday, Jan. 13, 2015. She was 91 years old.

Mona was born on Sept. 8, 1923, on her family farm in Onarga, Ill., to Edwin and Rosemary (Bybee) Eisenhower. She graduated from Illinois State Normal University (now Illinois State University) in 1944 with a teaching degree in Latin and English. She taught Latin and English until she stayed home to raise her children. While raising her family, she worked as a substitute teacher, on the catalog sales team at Lands' End and as a library assistant at Madison Memorial High School.

Mona was an active volunteer in organizations that supported her family and community. She was a Girl Scout leader, Cub Scout leader, active member of the Faculty Wives of Madison Area Technical College (MATC), where her husband was employed, and an active member of the Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society while she lived in Madison.

Mona married John (Jack) Denham Birong in 1946. She and Jack met at a USO dance while Jack was stationed at Chanute Air Force Base, Rantoul, Ill., during World War II and while she was teaching high school in East Lynn, Ill. After their marriage, they lived in a number of towns in Minnesota, Iowa and Wisconsin while Jack completed his education. Their last move was to Madison in 1966, where Mona lived until 2010 when she moved to Cedar Grove, to live near her daughter, Carolyn.