



## Beulah Mae Arnott

June 12, 1916 - October 22, 2010

Educator and historian Beulah Arnott died at her home on October 22, 2010 at the age of 94. Born on June 12, 1916, she was the fourth child of Fred and Irene (Lutz) Arnott. She was preceded in death by her parents and by her brothers, Carl of Muncie and Bill of San Antonio, and sisters Esther Silden of Marine City, MI and Floris Petty of Terre Haute. Sister-in-law Mary McGee Arnott survives in San Antonio.

Beulah played an important role in the lives of her five nieces and nephews - Marilyn Arnott, Philadelphia; David Silden, Charlotte, NC; Leah Petty McConaghy, Indianapolis; Erik Silden, Charleston, SC and Sally Silden Johnson, Katy, TX who survive her.

A lifelong resident of Rensselaer, Beulah developed a passion for the heritage of the community and a deep love for learning, which she shared with all ages. She taught 1st and 2nd grade students in Rensselaer public schools for 41 years, and she left them with many memories.

Beulah received her teaching license and her Bachelor of Science degree from Ball State University and her master's degree from Purdue University for work in the development of teacher education. She was also named a fellow of St. Joseph College.

As an active member of the Jasper County Historical Society Beulah was appointed by the county commissioners to serve as County Historian, and she served in that role for more than 25 years. She was a tireless researcher and answered requests for genealogical information from all over the country. She

also found inspiration for numerous community projects and had the persistence to convince others to join in. She took the most pride in the 1996 celebration of the centennial of the courthouse. The more recent acquisition of the historical marker for James Hanley, "Back Home Again in Indiana," also brought her joy, as has the publication of "Vintage Views." She also had fun with booklets that she put together herself, like "Forgotten Towns."

Beulah was a lifelong member of the Trinity United Methodist Church and took many roles there. She was a member of the choir for 61 years, and she served as lay delegate to the Northern Indiana Annual Conference for 20 years.

She was past-president of Tri Kappa, the Mental Health Board, the Jasper County Historical Society, the Ladies Literary Club and the Rensselaer Classroom Teachers Association. She also served as a member of the Crisis Center board and the Rensselaer Park Board. Through it all, no matter what else was happening, Beulah was a die-hard Cubs fan.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT **30**. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Trinity United Methodist Church  
107 E. Angelica Street  
Rensselaer, IN

## Service

OCT **30**. 1:00 PM (CT)

Trinity United Methodist Church  
107 E. Angelica Street  
Rensselaer, IN

# Tribute Wall



“ Miss Arnott was my very favorite teacher of my entire life. I distinctly remember treasuring how she read "Charlotte's Web" to my second grade class. & she was every bit as sharp and fascinating when I visited her a few months ago as she was back then. You knew from the crowds at her birthday party at the Jasper County Historical Society not that long ago how many others loved her too. Kind. Patient. Inspiring. Christian. My hero.##imported-begin##Linda Hughes##imported-end##

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October 29, 2010 at 11:14 PM



“ Miss Arnott was my first grade teacher waaay back. She did a good job teaching us the essentials and then some. On more than one occasion she kindly directed me to the cloakroom to spend some time in contemplation. Years later I've appreciated her interest in the history of our area and her willingness to pass it on. She'll be missed.##imported-begin##Jane Lord##imported-end##

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October 29, 2010 at 02:52 PM



“ If you're fortunate in life, there is that one special teacher who made a lasting impression and impact on you and for me that was Ms. Arnott.

*I was a student of Ms. Arnott in 2nd grade (circa 1965). I recall our class being full of energy, fun, field trips and learning. As naive students as we were at that time, we felt that we had somehow convinced administration to allow Ms. Arnott to move with us to the 3rd grade which she did the following year. At the time I recall we thought we were something special, that our teacher got to move with us to the next level instead of us leaving her. It was a special moment.*

*I recall Ms. Arnott as being very gifted and kind but disciplined in ensuring we did our best work. God surely had a plan when he put her in charge of all the students that she has taught, mentored and supported over the course of her career.*

*To this day I can recall the many kindnesses that were bestowed on me as a student of Ms. Arnott. While no longer with us, she will not be forgotten. I have since gone on to graduate from Purdue University and have had a fantastic 30 year career in human resources but still remember Ms. Arnott as being an influence even at a young age. To this day, when asked the question, "who was your favorite teacher?" on website security, I always answer Ms. Arnott.*

*May the peace of Christ be with you during this time and I trust that you will be able to rejoice in the life of this remarkable women.*

*Sincerely,  
Larry J Westfall##imported-begin##Larry J Westfall##imported-end##*

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October 27, 2010 at 09:51 AM