

Harrison County Community Foundation

Leora Elizabeth Eisenmenger Melton Memorial Scholarship Fund

In 2006, the children of Leora Melton honored their mother by creating a scholarship fund at the Harrison County Community Foundation. The Leora Elizabeth Eisenmenger Melton Memorial Scholarship Fund provides scholarships to graduating seniors at Corydon Central High School who also attended grades 1-6 at New Middletown Elementary School.

Leora Eisenmenger was born December 7, 1916, the daughter of Henry and Louisa Weis Eisenmenger. She graduated from New Middletown High School in 1934 and went on to earn a bachelor's and a master's degree in elementary education from Indiana University. Leora taught at a one room school house west of New Middletown for five years and then taught first grade at New Middletown Elementary School for 29 years for a total of 34 years in teaching. Leora married Denzil Melton on December 23, 1939.

"My grandmother loved learning and education her entire life," said Jennifer DePriest, Leora's granddaughter. "She taught the first grade at New Middletown for 29 years and had a huge impact on many lives and the community. She took great pride in the school where she started the first school library, instilled the love of reading into her students, and volunteered during her retirement. Her imprint continues to touch many former and current students and she will always be remembered for her generosity, compassion, and spirit."

Leora and Denzil's children are: Bill Melton of Hendersonville, Tennessee, Carole Olsen of Greensboro, North Carolina, Karen Troutman of Corydon, Joyce Spalding of Corydon, Denise Harmon of Depauw, Penny Fessel of New Middletown and Marilyn Wiggam of Columbus, Ohio.

Leora died on October 6, 2004 and is buried in the Salem United Church of Christ Cemetery in New Middletown.

A pink and white dogwood tree is planted next to a stone marker behind the New Middletown Elementary School to honor Leora for the many lives she touched in her time.



Leora Melton



(left) Graduation from New Middletown High School, 1934



New Middletown Elementary School where Leora taught for 29 years



Retirement, 1982



Leora upon her 70th Birthday



Remembering Leora for the lives she touched

