

Chino Valley OBITUARIES

Mary Eileen Pierce Fox

Former longtime Chino resident Mary Eileen Pierce Fox died Dec. 22, 2005, at Torrance Memorial Medical Center from pancreatic cancer.

Born Dec. 6, 1924, in Pryor, Okla., she arrived in Chino with her parents, Charlie and Bea Pierce, in the mid-1920s. They first lived on Ely — now Philadelphia Street — at Vernon Avenue. This location, now the site of Marie Callender's restaurant, was surrounded by walnut groves owned by rancher H. S. White, her father's employer of many years.



During the 1940s, Mr. and Mrs. Pierce purchased three acres on Francis Street between Central and Telephone Avenues, where they built a home and lived for a time before moving to 12th Street, where they stayed the remainder of their lives.

Mary went through Chino schools, graduating with the class of 1942. She was a senior class officer and a four-year member of the Girls' Athletic Association and played in the Chino High orchestra.

With the advent of World War II, she entered nurse training on a government program at Queen of Angels Hospital in Los Angeles. She received her nursing degree just as the war was winding down.

She took time out only for marriage and family. Her nursing career encompassed duty as a school nurse at Hawthorne High School, with hospitals in the San Fernando Valley, Hawthorne and Highland Park, and at the VA hospitals in Cheyenne, Wyo., and Westwood.

She married Chino High schoolmate Delmer L. Fox in 1945. They had three children, Jim Fox of Hawthorne, Charlie Fox of Lomita, and Carolyn Brandt, who preceded her parents in death in 1993.

Delmer Fox died Sept. 18, 2003.

In addition to her surviving sons, Mrs. Fox leaves four grandchildren, brothers Jim Pierce of Idaho and John Pierce of Hemet, and aunt Delora Satterfield of Chino.

Mrs. Fox maintained her ties to Chino by attending high school reunions and through her membership in the Chino Valley Historical Society.

A memorial service was held Saturday, Jan. 7, at Calvary Presbyterian Church in Hawthorne.