



Resident Audrey Clark

Audrey was born on September 21, 1928 in Springfield, Illinois. Her dad, Charlie William Lotz, worked for a coal mine. He started when he was only thirteen. Her mother, Bessy Jane raised Audrey and her 4 brothers. She also loved horses and would race them for fun. Audrey grew up in Beardstown. During the summer her dad would lease timber, there they would live in tents and run a sawmill. Audrey worked right along side of them pulling across the cut saw and driving the Belgian horses that were dragging logs to the saw mill. After summer ended, they would go home to Beardstown and go to school. At the beginning of the school year all the kids would get a new pair of bib overalls. Audrey would also get a dress. She was only allowed to wear the overalls when they were working. She also helped her mother cook for

the family and hired hands. When I asked her if she had any hobbies, she replied, "No, it was all work!"

She remembers praying for their family to get a permanent house to live in. Her father soon bought acreage south of Macomb with a home on it. They had barns, cattle, pigs, chickens, and sheep. Audrey went to Victor School. They had to walk miles, even in the snow, to get there. She graduated in 8th grade with the rest of her class.

Audrey has one daughter, Sarah Jane and has four grandchildren, Amanda, Benita, Carina, and Daryl. She has also been blessed with many great grandchildren and a great-great grandchild born on July 11th. Her husband, Oliver Clark had oil wells in Colmar, Illinois.

Through the years Audrey has been involved with 4-H. She worked there as a leader and has worked many other jobs in churches and restaurants, as well as painting, and housework for other people. She also made clothing for her grandchildren and sewed quilts for a church project in Missouri.

Audrey has faith in God and is thankful he's been with her all these years. She is also thankful for those who have stayed in touch and helped her as she battled many physical setbacks. She likes Everly very much but admitted that it was extremely hard to leave her home. We are very blessed to have her here as part of the Everly family. We hope that it feels more and more like home to her as time passes.