

# Essa "Babe" Georgene (Sommers) Royce

6-27-1989

Memorial services for Essa "Babe" Georgene (Sommers) Royce, age 89, were held at the Platte Funeral Chapel in Wheatland Monday, July 2 at 10 a.m., with the Rev. Susan D. Phifer officiating.

Mrs. Royce died Wednesday, June 27 at the Platte County Memorial Hospital following a long illness.

Essa Georgene Royce was born Nov. 9, 1900, the daughter of Charles and Mina (Harper) Sommers at Crawfordville, Iowa. The Sommers family were early settlers in the Wheatland and Laramie Mountain areas. Her early childhood was spent on the family ranch and she was educated at the rural country schools near her home.

She moved to Wheatland in 1918 and began working for Dr. Fred W. Phifer at the Wheatland General Hospital, and continued working for Dr. James G. Allison until his death.

"Babe," as she was known to her family and friends, and Ivory Royce were married in December of 1927.

She is survived by a daughter, Marie Rittel of Wheatland, and a son, Dale J. Royce of Casper. Three brothers, Don Sommers of Wheatland, Hal Sommers of Saratoga and Phifer Sommers of Oregon, one sister, Madge Perry of Cheyenne, seven grandchildren, fourteen great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren also survive.

She was preceded in death by her husband, one infant son, her parents, four sisters and three brothers.

A memorial has been established to the Platte County Services for Seniors Center in Wheatland, and donations would be greatly appreciated by her family.

The Platte Funeral Chapel was in charge of arrangements.