

# Mission Del Amo

WESTMINSTER

by Darline Hanson

## Happy Birthday:

Gladys Choate was born Gladys Shepherd on a farm in Kansas January 21, 1905. She was one of 12 children. She came to California as a bride in 1923. Her husband came to work in the oil fields. Gladys has two children, Robert of Fountain Valley and Patricia of Huntington Beach. They have given her 11 grandchildren, eight boys and three girls who have also given her 11 great-grandchildren, eight boys and three girls. Gladys' husband Earl passed away in 1987.

Gladys and her family moved to Midway City in 1931 where she was acquainted with many of the people for whom many of our streets are now named. She and her husband helped to build, literally, Friends Community Church which she attends. They moved away in 1944 but came back to the area when they moved to Mission del Amo in 1983. Gladys remarks, "I hope to spend the rest of my life here. My children are close and I love it here!"

Gladys has worked as a salesperson at various department stores. She has worked at Douglas Aircraft in Long Beach and nursed at Rancho Los Amigos. Today, Gladys fills her days with MDA Women's Club activities, playing cards, doing jigsaw puzzles and crocheting booties for CHOC.

As I was doing my arithmetic I realized that Gladys is 87 years young. This lovely, soft-spoken, pleasant lady looks and acts so much younger. I am glad that I got to know a little more about her when I did this interview and I wish Gladys Choate many more happy birthdays.