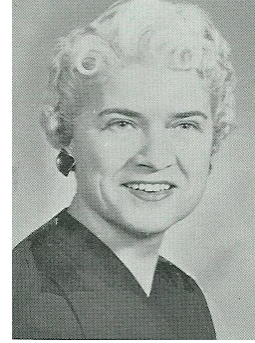


# Sue Wallace Tucek

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I was born near Silverton, Texas in 1912. My father, Edward H. Wallace and an uncle drove cattle from Silverton to a place south of Norton, New Mexico. Mother, Maggie Wallace, brought me on a train to Clovis, NM when I was 9 months old. Daddy came to Clovis in a buggy to get us. We lived in a little rock house in Apache Canyon for 2 years.

My parents bought the Cronin place east of Norton and filed on adjoining land in 1915 to start a cattle ranch. We lived in a 2-room dugout until living quarters could be prepared on the new land. These included a 3 room house with a fireplace, corrals, a well with windmill, sheds and garden spot.

The Apache School was 4 miles south of our home. Our first teacher was Aunt Susie Wallace, who lived with us 4 years. We went to school in a buggy, later on horseback for the first 8 years.

My high school years were in Tucumcari from 1924 to 1929. Our home at that time was where the First National Bank of New Mexico is today. In autumn of 1929 our parents moved us to Canyon, Texas where I started to college at West Texas State Teachers College. By going both winter and summer for 3 years, I earned my Bachelor of Science Degree in Home Economics and my teaching certificate. We moved back to the ranch and I taught high school at Wheatland, New Mexico for 2 years and kept my 2 youngest sisters in a small 1 room teacherage.

I met Harry Tucek while in Canyon, Texas and later married him in 1933. We moved to a farm west of Canyon and I taught school for 1 year at Wilson Grade School in Texas. We then moved to Rosebud, Harding County in New Mexico and I taught for 1 year. We came back to Quay County and I taught at Wheatland High School for 8 years. After my father died in 1937, Harry and I lived at the ranch and he helped mother with the ranch work – feeding the cattle, fixing fences and wells. Some of the time I drove from the ranch taking my youngest sister with me to Wheatland School as I taught.

Later Harry and I bought a home in Tucumcari. I began teaching the first 2 years in Junior High School. I worked the next year as Home Economist for the Farmers Home Administration traveling all over the County. I then was the Home Economics Teacher for 25 years, for a total of 39 years of teaching all together. My brothers stayed with us to finish their high school to prepare them for college. I retired in 1972.

Harry and I had been helping Mother operate the ranch and after her death in 1966, my brothers, sisters and I formed a partnership for several years. After I retired, I moved to the ranch and enjoyed helping with the work. After Harry passed away in 1982 I took 4 trips with the Roadrunners from the Bank. They were to Germany, the New England States and Canada, Alaska and to Australia. I really enjoyed them all.

When my sister, Joan, passed away in 1988, I came back to Tucumcari to help care for my niece, Jerry Sue Rusk, for 10 years.

I still have my home in town, my part of the Home Ranch and had a few cattle until about 1 ½ years ago. I live in my home in town and my niece and nephew took care of my cattle while I still had them. I have enjoyed being a member of AAUW, Wheatland Extension Club, Retired School Employees, Reading, knitting and crafts.



Sponsor, Mrs. Tucek



Top row, left to right: Joan Troutman, Wanda Yocum, Matella Evans, Wanda Arnett, Kay Marshall, Ray Kemper, and Bonnie Kleindolph. Bottom row: Mrs. Tucek, Janice Akins, Ruth Dunn, Ella Roach, Patricia McMurphy, Nelda Vessels, Louetta Foote, and Peggy Vessels.

**FHA**