

OBITUARY

Estelline Pike

Estelline Lovin Ball Pike was the fourth of five children born to Jackson and Ada (Stevenson) Lovin. She was born in Amarillo, Tex. on June 5, 1908 and died June 8, 1990 in her home in New York City.

Estelline was raised mainly in Hoxie, Kans. and was valedictorian of her graduating class of 1927. After graduating from Barnes Business School she spent a short time as a legal secretary before marrying John G. Ball in 1928. John, better known as "Lucky", was an entertainer who taught Estelline to swallow swords.

"Lucky" and Estelline were divorced in 1941, and in 1943 she married Dewey "Blackie" Pike. She was widowed in 1947.

After learning to swallow swords, Estelline later became a show owner and manager of several different sideshows with many different carnivals. She was always on the go, and very seldom at home in Hoxie for any length of time. This, of course, being the nature of her business.

Her children all have fond memories of their mother and her many exploits across the North American continent. She appeared on many T.V. shows, including the "Today" show and "What's My Line?". She once wrote that one of her great pleasures was being a featured act on the sideshow of Royal American Shows, the largest and best carnival. She also worked for years for Ringling Bros. Circus whenever they were playing in New York City at the Madison Square Gardens.

She was well read and has written many poems and stories, which was one of her pastimes that she so enjoyed.

She was delightful to be around and was liked by all, and will be sadly missed by her family and her business associates and friends across the nation.

Estelline continued her membership at the Hoxie Methodist Church throughout the time she was away from Hoxie.

She is survived by one son, James Ball and wife Lona of Oakley, Kans.; two daughters, Ramona Bachman of Fort. Collins, Colo. and Melba Halverson and husband Gordon of Ridgecrest, Calif.; seven grandchildren, three step-grandchildren and nine great grandchildren.

Her parents Jack and Ada, husband Blackie, brothers Irvin, Allen and Harold, and her sister Ethel Potter preceded her in death.

Services were June 30, 1990 at Mickey-Leopold Chapel, Hoxie, Kans. with Rev. Dick Robbins officiating. Burial was in the Hoxie Cemetery. 7-12-1990