

## Longtime volunteer marks 90th birthday

Marguerite Lawrence of Wichita has been coming to Oshkosh as an Admissions Gate volunteer for 30 years. She has also volunteered at Sun 'n Fun for the past 28 years.

But this year became something special when her five sons and daughter, their spouses, and other relatives joined her to help celebrate her 90th birthday. Thursday morning they were all together at Admissions Gate 346, often referred to as the Warbirds gate, to mark the occasion, which actually takes place early next month.



Marguerite Lawrence and her family celebrated her 90th birthday Thursday. Photo by Dave Higdon

Marguerite soloed in 1938 and earned her private ticket in 1940. She wound up marrying her flight instructor, Roy Gene Lawrence.

"He got her in the airplane and would not land until she said yes," joked eldest son, Sony, who is a member of EAA Chapter 172 in Augusta, Georgia. He said the idea to reunite at Oshkosh came around the holidays last year.

"I found some rooms and called everyone and said, 'Mother's turning 90, and we need to have a party,'" he said.

For Marguerite, AirVenture was the perfect place to have it. "It's special to be here at Oshkosh," she said.