Winnie Thelma Johnson was born on May 29, 1901, in Tupelo, Arkansas. She married James "Red" Coy Lovier 1918, in Cross, Arkansas and they had five children during their marriage: Dorothy, James, June, Jane and Sue. In 1936 she met president Roosevelt during a visit in Harrisburg, Illinois. Through the 1930s and 40s she was a superintendent of housework workers for the WPA home aide project in Hardin County, IL. In 1937 Mrs. Lovier sang "Living for Jesus" at station WEBQ in Harrisburg for a church performance. In 1939 she was appointed to a civic committee upon the book release "The History of Hardin county" and centennial celebration. In 1943 she also worked as a clerk for the Spardale housing project in Hardin County. Around 1946 she moved to St Louis and later married Hugh Ligon in 1947 there. She died on January 4, 1971, in St Louis, Missouri, at the age of 69.