Elsie Baustian, 86

Elsie Irene Baustian, 86, of Guernsey, died Tuesday, March 23, 2010. Funeral services were at 11 a.m. on Saturday, March 27, at the Holland-Coble Funeral Home in Montezuma. Burial was at Goldenrod Cemetery in Deep River. Memorial contributions may be made to the Marengo Memorial Hospital.

Elsie Irene Baustian was born Jan. 23, 1924, in Wray, Colo., the daughter of Morris and Naomi Barber Starrett. She was a 1941 graduate of Deep River High School. On March 20, 1946, she was united in marriage to Wayne Rolland Baustian. To this union, three children were born, Steve, Patricia and David. Over the years, Irene worked as a homemaker, and at Johnson Grocery and Cox Dry Goods in Deep River, McLellans in Cedar Rapids, Star Inn and Dickie's Prairie Home. She enjoyed sewing, gardening, golfing and dancing. She was a member of the Guernsey United Methodist Church and the American Legion Auxiliary. At age 65, Irene received multiple bee stings which left her in a persistent vegetative state until Tuesday, March 23, 2010, when she passed away at the Marengo Memorial Hospital.

She is survived by her daughter, Patty (Roger) Griffith of Malcom; a son, David Baustian of Guernsey; a brother, Max Starrett of Phoenix, Ariz.; a sister, Helen Haines of Roseburg, Ore.; two grandchildren, Amy (Chad) Larson of Brooklyn, and J.D. (Erica) Griffith of Malcom; and two great-grandchildren, Dylan and Jackson Eichhorn.

Irene was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Wayne; a son, Steve; two brothers, Marvin and Donald Starrett; and three sisters, Hazel Steffer, Juanita Baustian and Mary Elliott.