

Antonie "Toni" Gavrioloaia, 92

Antonie "Toni" Gavrioloaia, age 92, of Victor, passed on into eternal rest on April 28, 2010, at her home in Victor with her family at her bedside.

In accordance with her wishes, her body was cremated and her remains will be retained by her family until the passing of her husband, Vasile, when their remains will be interred together at Victor Memorial Cemetery.

Memorials may be directed to Essence of Life Hospice, 3207 - 220th Street, Amana, 52203. Smith Funeral Home and Cremation Service of Grinnell and Victor is assisting the Gavrioloaia family. Cards of sympathy may be mailed to the family in care of the Smith Funeral Home, P.O. Box 485, Victor, 52347.

Antonie Auguste Schiemann Gavrioloaia, of German decent, was born the daughter of Ferdinand Schiemann and Auguste Binert Schiemann on Jan. 24, 1918, in Rypin, Poland. She was raised and educated in Rypin, Poland. Her mother died when she was two years old and she was raised by her father. During World War II, her family was forced to leave Poland in February of 1945 and they moved to Germany. Her father was ill and died on their journey to Germany in a horse and wagon and he was buried in a potato field. While working as a housekeeper at Hof Rutenmühle estate in Brockdorf, Germany, she met her future husband, Vasile Gavrioloaia, who was also employed there.

She was united in marriage to Vasile Gavrioloaia on May 22, 1946, in Neunkirchen, Germany. Their son, Bruno, was born on Jan. 26, 1947, in Celle, Germany. Due to the fact that Vasile was a Romanian POW refugee, the family was then forced to leave Germany in 1951. The United Church of God sponsored their immigration to the United States as displaced persons. Upon their arrival to Ellis Island, their family was then transitioned to Victor. Vasile then worked on Minnie and William McDonald Jr.'s farm and Toni assisted on the farm occasionally as well as did house-keeping for area residents. Vasile continued to work on the McDonald farm until his retirement. Their daughter, Elizabeth, was born on Oct. 14, 1953, at Grinnell General Hospital in Grinnell. After a six year waiting period, Antonie, Vasile and Bruno became nationalized citizens of the United States of America on April 8, 1958. Toni began working at Amana Refrigeration in 1958, and then continued until her retirement in 1982, after 24 years of employment. Toni, yearning to have a brick home such as in Poland, had one constructed in the latter 1960s. This brought her great comfort and joy.

Toni was a former member of the St. James Lutheran Church in Victor. Her enjoyments included gardening, canning, landscaping, knitting, crocheting, and tatting. Toni was a brave and strong person who took responsibility for herself and her family. She worked very hard to provide a comfortable home and environment for her family to enjoy. She was an honorable, forthright and fair person. Mirth could be had by her amusing wit. Her love for animals provided her joy and solice. Toni's unselfish and loving ways will be missed. We will cherish her forever through the loving memories.

Toni is survived by her husband of 64 years, Vasile Gavrioloaia of Victor; her son, Bruno (Anna Marie) Gavrioloaia of Kansas City, Mo.; and her daughter, Elizabeth Gavrioloaia of Victor.

Toni was preceded in death by her parents; and her siblings, Otto Schiemann, Frieda Schiemann, and Hilda Schiemann; and her nephew, Edmund Peters, who was her only living relative in the United States, who died at the age of 34, in 1971.

Gavrioloaia Antonie

RCF April 28, 2010

