Corinela Veenstra

Cornelia Helena De Jong Veenstra, daughter of Martin P. and Marie Van Wyngarden De Jong, was born near Leighton, Iowa, on June 14, 1918. She received her early childhood education at a country school near her home.

On December 5, 1940, Cornelia married Lambert Veenstra. To this union seven children were born: John, Marvin, Charles, Bernie, Carrie Ann, Eddie, and Marie Rose. Cornelia and Lambert made their home on the farm east of Taintor where they raised their family. Cornelia delighted in caring for her family and being a farmer's wife. She enjoyed baking, gardening, sewing, and crocheting. She made many many blankets for missions. As her family grew and left home, she was particularly happy when they all came for dinner on Sundays. She loved her family and her church.

Cornelia was a member of the Peoria Christian Reformed Church where she made profession of faith at an early age. She was also a member of the Ladies Aid group all her life. Cornelia passed away on Friday, June 12, 2009, two days short of her ninety-first birthday, at the Mahaska Health Partnership in Oskaloosa, Iowa.

She is survived by her six children and their spouses: John (Betty) Veenstra of Taintor, Marvin Veenstra of Pella, Charles (Marlene) Veenstra of Sioux Center, Bernie (Nella) Veenstra of New Sharon, Carrie Ann (Phil) Bloem of New Sharon, and Eddie (Deb) Veenstra of Otley; seventeen grandchildren; thirty-four great-grandchildren; her brothers: Henry (Jeanetta) De Jong and Rev. Wilbur (Marilyn) De Jong; and one sister-in-law: Greta Veenstra.

She was preceded in death by: her parents; her husband, Lambert in 2003; their daughter, Marie Rose who died at the tender age of nine; her sister, Wilma who died in infancy; and her brother James De Jong and his wife Nellie.

Visitation will be held Sunday after Noon with family present 2-4 at the Pella Garden Chapel Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held Monday at 10:30 at the Peoria Christian Reformed Church.