Dorothy Zuidema

Dorothy Mae (Bandstra) Zuidema, the daughter of Bart and Mary (Vande Voort) Bandstra, was born on January 14, 1917, at the home of her parents near the little town of Evans, Iowa. She was the fourth of ten children. She loved her parents and brother and sisters dearly. Dorothy attended West Weaver School in Mahaska County and graduated from the eighth grade.

Dorothy worked in the homes of several people. At age thirteen she began working away from home and was always happy for the weekends when she could be home with her family.

She made profession of her faith at an early age in the Christian Reformed Church in Leighton, Iowa.

On October 27, 1943, Dorothy was united in marriage with William Zuidema of Sully, Iowa, at the Leighton Christian Reformed Church. To this union two children were born: Delmar Eugene and Mary Alice.

Bill and Dorothy farmed twenty years after their marriage and in January 1964 they moved to Sully where Bill worked at the Co-op and Dorothy at the Sully Community Locker for twenty years.

They moved to Pella in January 1994 where they lived in a duplex four years. Bill passed away on May 14, 1996, and Dorothy lived alone in the duplex for a few more years before becoming a resident of Hilltop Manor in 2000. Dorothy was a resident at the Garage Nursing Facility in Newton where she passed away Tuesday, February 15, 2011, at the age of ninety-four.

Dorothy is survived by her children: Delmar and Linda Zuidema of Pella and Mary and Randy Simpson of Newton; seven grandchildren: Reverend Todd and Dr. Leah Zuidema of Hull, Iowa, Tim and Teresa Huizenga of Highland, Indiana, Sara and Chad Johnson of Pella, Chad Criswell and Scott Criswell of Galena, Reverend Eric and Kendra Simpson of Indianapolis, Indiana, Brad Simpson and Jody Shaver of Ankeny, Iowa; eleven great-grandchildren: Lindsey, Ann and Emily Kate Zuidema, Matthew, James and Luke Edward Huizenga, Collin Charles Johnson, Connor David Criswell, Lily and Kaylynn Simpson, Andrew Simpson, Kaeden and Kynze Shaver; three sisters and their husbands: Wilma and Richard Vos, Robert and Kathryn Vroom all of Pella, Bernice Kredt of Phoenix, Arizona; her brother and his wife, John and Joan Bandstra of Pella; and one sister-in-law: Luella Bandstra of Pella. She also leaves several nieces and nephews and a host of loving friends.

She was preceded in death by her loving and faithful husband; her parents, Bart and Mary Bandstra; three sisters: Gertrude Bandstra, Ada Speelstra, and Mary Jane Bandstra who passed away in infancy; two brothers: Paul E. Bandstra, and Henry M. Bandstra.

Funeral services were held Friday, February 19, 2011, at the Calvary Christian Reformed Church in Pella. Burial took place at the Sully Cemetery. The Pella Garden Chapel Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.