Lenice Walsh, 96

Lenice Walsh, 96, of Oskaloosa, formerly of New Sharon and Barnes City, passed away Thursday, June 2, 2011, at the Northern Mahaska Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Oskaloosa. Funeral services were held at 2 p.m., Sunday, June 5, at the New Sharon First Christian Church, with Pastor Phil DeBoef officiating. Interment was in the Barnes City Cemetery in Barnes City. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to the First Christian Church or Care Initiatives Hospice. Friends may send condolences or sign the online guestbook at www.hardenfuneralhomes.com. Harden Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Lenice Willette Walsh, daughter of James William and Laura Edith (Thomas) Allen, was born on March 11, 1915, in rural Searsboro. She was a 1934 graduate of Barnes City High School. On Feb. 20, 1935, Lenice was united in marriage to Irvin Franklin Walsh in Oskaloosa. Lenice was the Barnes City town clerk for a few years. They farmed in the Barnes City area until moving into town to operate a radiator shop in 1965. In 1970, Irvin and Lenice moved to Tucson, Ariz., where they enjoyed their retirement years. After Irvin's death, she moved back to New Sharon where she enjoyed being around family and friends. Lenice was a member of the New Sharon First Christian Church where she was very active. She belonged to the church choir, Fantastics, the Loyal Daughters, and she served as a Deaconess.

She is survived by sisters-in-law, Lavon Walsh of Montezuma, Ruth Walsh of Cedar Rapids, Mildred Allen of Oskaloosa and Janice Jones of Belton, Mo.; a brother-in-law, Eddie (Marge) Walsh of Tucson, Ariz.; several nieces, nephews, special friends, Bill and Patty Patterson; and her family at the Northern Mahaska Nursing Home and Care Initiatives Hospice.

She was preceded in death by her parents: her husband, Irvin Walsh; five brothers, Irv, Orville, Afton, Chitus and Cyril; and two sisters, Cleora Johnston and Zola Allen.