Ellis C. Morse, 89 and Evelyn Janice Morse, 86

Ellis C. Morse, age 89, of Montezuma, formerly of Webster, died Sunday, Nov. 20, 2011, at the Montezuma Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. His wife, Evelyn Janice Morse, age 86, of Sigourney, formerly of Webster, died three days later on Wednesday, Nov. 23, 2011, at the Keokuk County Health Center in Sigourney.

Ellis was born Feb. 8, 1922, near Webster, to Charles and Neva (McGuire) Morse. He attended Porter country school and graduated from Millersburg High School in 1940. On June 29, 1941, Ellis married Evelyn Strausser at the Millersburg Methodist Parsonage. The couple lived and farmed near Webster until moving to Montezuma in 2000. Ellis was a member of the Millersburg United Methodist Church and the I.O.O.F. He enjoyed league bowling in Williamsburg and camping at the Iowa State Fair for many years. His funeral services were held at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 23, at Powell Funeral Home in North English.

Evelyn was born Feb. 1, 1925, near North English, to Richard Moral and Hazel Irene McMasters Strausser. She grew up in the North English community and attended school there. On June 29, 1941, Evelyn married Ellis Charles Morse at the Millersburg Methodist Parsonage. The couple lived and farmed near Webster until moving to Montezuma in 2000. Evelyn became a resident of Manor House in Sigourney in October 2010. She was a member of the Millersburg United Methodist Church and the North English Rebekah Lodge. In her younger years, she and Ellis enjoyed roller-skating in Millersburg. Evelyn enjoyed league bowling in Williamsburg and camping at the Iowa State Fair for many years. She was an excellent seamstress and worked several years at the North English Cleaners. Evelyn also helped Doris Kerkove at her greenhouse for many years.

Their survivors include two sons, Gary (Peg) Morse of Montezuma and Richard "Dick" (Merla) Morse of Sigourney; seven grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; Evelyn's sisters, Mary Wolf of Deep River and Shirley (David) Wade of North English; and a brother, Clinton Richard (Jean) Strausser of Cedar Rapids.

They were preceded in death by both parents; a son, William; a great-grandson, Quinn Svenby; Evelyn's sisters, Betty Grier and Elsie Nelson; and Ellis' two sisters, Leona Berstler and Elsie Arduser.

Funeral services for Evelyn were held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 26, 2011, at Powell Funeral Home in North English. The Rev. Michelle Williamson officiated both services and burial for both was in the Mt. Zion Cemetery, rural Millersburg. A memorial fund has been established for both for the Millersburg United Methodist Church. Powell Funeral Home and Cremation Service in North English handled the arrangements. Messages and tributes may be left at www.powellfuneralhomes.com under obituaries.
EVELYN JANICE MORSE  

Evelyn Janice Morse, 86, of Sigourney, formerly of Webster, died Nov. 23, at the Sigourney Hospital.

Evelyn was born Feb. 1, 1925, near North English, to Richard Moral and Hazel Irene McMasterson Strausser. She grew up in the North English community and attended school there.


She was a member of the Millersburg United Methodist Church and the North English Rebekah Lodge. In her younger years she and Ellis enjoyed roller skating in Millersburg. Evelyn enjoyed league bowling in Williamsburg and camping at the Iowa State Fair for many years. She was an excellent seamstress and worked several years at the North English Cleaners. Evelyn also helped Doris Kerkove at her greenhouse for many years.

Survivors include two sons: Gary (Peg) Morse of Montezuma and Richard "Dick" (Merla) Morse of Sigourney; seven grandchildren; 16 great grandchildren; and sister Mary Wolf of Deep River and Shirley (David) Wade of North English; and a brother Clinton Richard (Jean) Strausser of Cedar Rapids. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband Ellis; a son, William; a great grandson Quinn Svenby, and sisters Betty Grier and Elsie Nelson.

Services were Nov. 26, at Powell Funeral Home, North English. Burial was at Mt. Zion Cemetery rural Millersburg.