Virginia Jolene Johnston, 90

Virginia Jolene Johnston, 90, of Montezuma, passed away peacefully in her sleep March 1, 2013, at Montezuma Nursing and Rehabilitation Center.

Virginia was born Aug. 21, 1922, in Marengo, the daughter of Hefmon and Lydia Mae Schrader Davis. She graduated Montezuma High School in 1942. In 1949, she was united in marriage with Roger W. Johnston, in Waterloo. The couple farmed in Montezuma, Poweshiek County. She was employed as a telephone operator for Montezuma Telephone for several years and then left the company to raise her family and work on the family farm.

Virginia loved her family dearly and enjoyed sharing her time with them. She enjoyed baking and cooking, reading the local newspaper and listening to WMT and KGRN radio stations. She also enjoyed coffee with her friends and for several years worked on her high school class reunion committee. She was a member of the Willing Workers, a neighborhood women's club.

Survivors include three children, Cathy (Gerald, D.) Haynes of Brooklyn, Sally Jo (David) Cook of Deep River and William (Toni) Johnston of Des Moines; two sisters, LaDonna Anderson and Phyllis Osborn of Montezuma; eight grandchildren, Kathryn McCulley, Tammy Beardmore, Barbara Nelson, Travis Cook, Josephine Schulte, Robert Haynes, Trampus Cook and John Haynes; three step-children, Jennifer (Mitch) Johnson, Wesley (Leah) Detman and Gary Detman; 11 great-grandchildren; and two step-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; daughter, Jolene Virginia; and two sisters, Dema and LaVonne.

A graveside service and burial will be held at a later date at the Masonic Odd Fellows Cemetery in Montezuma.

Visitaton with the family present will be held from 1 to 4 p.m., Saturday, March 9, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell.

The family requests no flowers. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be directed to the Montezuma Nursing Home Activity Fund in Virginia's name.

We would like to thank the staff at Montezuma Nursing Home for the excellent, loving care she received while she lived there.
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