DONNA LEE HUGHES

Donna Hughes, 74, of Montezuma and formerly of Oskaloosa passed away early Tuesday, February 4, 2014, at the Mahaska Health Partnership in Oskaloosa.

Donna Lee Hughes, daughter of Harvey and Dorothy Holcomb Knowler, was born October 19, 1939, in Dodge City, Minn. The family moved to Lacey, Iowa, when Donna was a young child, and that is where Donna attended school. January 25, 1966, she was united in marriage to Ronny “Jake” Gene Hughes in Oskaloosa, and they made their home in Oskaloosa. In addition to raising her large family, Donna also worked for many years in nursing homes in the Oskaloosa area. In 1999, Donna was able to retire and was thrilled to be able to devote her time to being a full-time grandma. Donna was a wonderful cook and especially enjoyed fixing Sunday and holiday dinners. She also enjoyed gardening, going to the races and just spending time with her family and friends.

Her family includes her husband of 56 years, Jake Hughes of Oskaloosa; her children and their spouses, Dean and Debbie Hughes of Rose Hill, Ronny and Jackie Hughes of Beacon, Jerry and Sandy Hughes of Oskaloosa, Jay and Jamie Hughes of Knoxville, Rhonda Thomas of Oskaloosa and Doreen Hughes and her special friend, Tom Hudson, of Thornburg; 17 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; sisters and brothers-in-law, Velma and Harry Chandler of New Sharon, Marianne and Lewis Playle of Barnes City and Connie Molenburg of New Sharon.

In addition to her parents, Donna was preceded in death by a son, Brian Hughes; four sisters, Tootie Eaton, Dorothy Conway, Lou Vanderhyde, and Sandra Miller; and two brothers, Jack and Walt Knowler.

Funeral services for Donna were held Friday morning, February 7 at Garland-Van Arkel-Langkamp Funeral Chapel in Oskaloosa with Pastor Alvern Boetsma of the Good News Chapel officiating. Burial was in Woods Cemetery in Adams Township, Mahaska County. Memorials may be made in her name. Condolences and memories may be sent at gvlfuneralchapel.com.