ROSA ELLA (FLECK) PHILLIPS

Rosa Ella Phillips, 97, of Sigourney, formerly of What Cheer, passed away Tuesday, February 4, 2014, at the Keokuk County Health Care Center. Funeral Services were held Saturday, February 8, 2014 at the Holland-Coble Funeral Home in What Cheer. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the What Cheer Baptist Church.

Friends can sign the online guestbook at www.hollandcoblenursalhomes.com.

Rosa Ella (Fleck) Phillips was born on December 12, 1916, near Leighton, the daughter of LeRoy and Nellie Fleck. At the age of 15, she met and began her lifelong journey with Armand Phillips. They were married August 31, 1932, which began a union that lasted over 50 years and was only broken by Armand’s death in 1985. During their time together, they worked hand in hand on many different ventures. They lived in rural What Cheer, where Rosa was a hard working farmwife. She would milk cows, tend to the animals, sell cream, tend to the house, and still find time to be a loving wife and mother. She was known for her ability to sew and was often called upon to work on friends’ and families’ clothes that needed mending. Whether it was running the hand pump to keep the baby catfish alive on a delivery, or the scenic drives she took with Armand, they enjoyed being together. Rosa was an active member of the What Cheer Baptist Church as well as a Sunday School Teacher. Later in life, she moved to Windsor Place in Sigourney, where she continued to live life to the fullest and enjoy her loving family.

Rosa is preceded in death by her husband Armand (1985); three brothers, Omar, Ray, and Ivan Fleck; two sisters, Verla Shilling and Dorothy Wyscarver; two grandchildren, TomMy and Danny Phillips, and one great-grandchild, Jonathan Danner.

Left to cherish her memory are her son, Don (Enid) Phillips of What Cheer, her daughter, Arlene (David Richard) Nelles of Florida; three grandchildren, Monte (Marcia) Nilles, Regina (John) Leer, and Shelley (Rich) Hornung; seven great-grandchildren; 15 great-great-grandchildren; and one great-great-great-grandchild.