

MARGARET ELOISE LANGSTRAAT

Eloise Langstraat, 84 of Oskaloosa and formerly of New Sharon, passed away Thursday morning, December 4, 2014, at the Oskaloosa Care Center in Oskaloosa. Funeral services were held Tuesday,



December 9, 2014, at the New Sharon United Methodist Church.

Burial was in the Friends Cemetery in New Sharon. Memorial contributions may be made to the New Sharon United Methodist Church or the United Methodist Women. Holland-Coble Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Margaret Eloise Langstraat, the daughter of William and Bessie (Miley) Bucklew was born on Friday, December 13, 1929, in Knoxville. Eloise attended the Valley Country School and graduated from Knoxville High School in 1947. Eloise then attended Iowa State Teacher's college and graduated in 1949. She later attended classes at William Penn College. Eloise taught at Flemming County School in Marion County and Grandville which was west of Taintor. While teaching at Grandville, she met Henry J (Hank) Langstraat. He soon became the love of her life. Soon after their engagement, Hank was drafted into the U.S. Army during the Korean Conflict. While Hank served his country, Eloise continued to teach. After Hank's military discharge, they were married July 13, 1953, in Knoxville. To this union, two children were born, Marlene and John. In 1960, they began their own farming operation and purchased their own farm in 1962 west of New Sharon. This was a long sought out dream and both worked hard together making it a successful farming operation and providing for their family. She provided for her family by growing a large garden and preserving the produce. She was an accomplished seamstress and provided clothing for her family. During the 1970s, Eloise was a teacher's aide and substitute teacher at North Mahaska Elementary. She was a uniquely gifted in teaching children of all abilities. Eloise was a long and active member of the New Sharon United Methodist Church and United Methodist Women. Eloise and Hank taught Sunday school together for 19 years. She was a 4-H leader for many years. After retiring from the farm, Hank and Eloise traveled and wintered in the south. They also enjoyed camping at the Iowa State Fair and were member of the Excel Campers Club. Their favorite activity was spending time with their granddaughters. On August 4, 2008, Hank passed away. Eloise will be remembered by her deep love for her family and always putting their needs before her own.

Her memory will be honored by her children, Marlene (Mike) Maxwell of Oskaloosa and John Langstraat of Oskaloosa; five grandchildren and eight great grandchildren, Lindsay Maxwell, Lesley (Jake) Lyman and their daughter Aria, Andy (Maxwell) and his children, Zackary and Samantha, Shawn (Jennifer) Maxwell and their children, Allyson and Maddox, Jamie (Brian) Vink and their children, Levi, Owen and Daisy. She is also survived by sisters-in-law, Bonnie Bucklew and Anna Mae Williams; a brother-in-law, Wilbur (Bernice) Langstraat; and many nieces and nephews.

Eloise was preceded in death by her husband, Hank; her parents; and her brother, Miley Bucklew.

Record 12-11-2014