

## KATIE NIKKEL SURBER

Katie Surber, 94 of New Sharon, passed away Friday, March 13, 2015 at the Serenity House in Oskaloosa. Funeral services were held on March



16, 2015 at the First Christian Church in New Sharon. Burial was in the Sixteen Cemetery near Thornburg. Memorial contributions may be made to Mahaska County hospice or to the New Sharon First Christian Church.

Katie Nikkel Surber was born January 5, 1921 near Sully,

the daughter of Jacobus and Jennie Rozenboom Nikkel. She was united in marriage to Elmer Kenneth Surber on October 3, 1939. The couple raised three sons and six daughters. They lived in various places before settling in What Cheer where they established the Full Gospel Church and Surber Upholstery. Katie also worked as a home health aide for Keokuk County for over 20 years. After the death of her husband, she moved to Prairie Homes in New Sharon and for the last two and a half of years she has received the best of care at the Oskaloosa Care Center. Over the years, Katie attended church at the Full Gospel Church, Hill Top Chapel in What Cheer, Assembly of God in Oskaloosa and most recently the First Christian Church in New Sharon. She had a ministry of music and enjoyed playing the piano when and where ever she could. Katie never hesitated to share her home with a stranger or invite them to her supper table. She commonly shied away from any notoriety and always remained faithful. Katie's joy in life was her family. Unconditional love is the only love Katie had for her family.

She is preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Elmer Surber; a daughter, Virginia Crow; a son Keith (Sonny) Surber; a brother, Jacob Nikkel; and a sister, Wilma Horn.

Katie is survived by two sons, David (Virginia) Surber of Troy, Mo., and Kenneth (Kathy) Surber of Harrisonburg, Va.; her five daughters: Carolyn (Miles) Brewer of Keokuk, Phyllis (Robert) Graham of Kellogg, Linda (Wally) Anderson of St. Louis, Rebecca (Richard) McCulley of New Sharon and Sharon (Don) Turnwall of Minneapolis; a daughter-in-law, Rosie Surber of Montezuma; and a son-in-law, Gordon Crow of St. Louis. She also leaves behind 25 grandchildren and 28 great-grandchildren.

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