

**OBITUARIES**

**FORMER MONTEZUMA RESIDENT**

**Verna Baird, 91**



Verna Baird, 91 of Cedar Rapids and formerly of Montezuma passed away Tuesday afternoon, June 2, 2015 at Mercy Medical Center in Cedar Rapids. Funeral services were held on Saturday, June 6 at the Holland-Coble Funeral Home in Montezuma. Burial was at the Jackson Township Cemetery in Montezuma. Open visitation was held Friday, June 5, 2015 at the Holland-Coble Funeral Home in Montezuma. The family is present on Saturday to greet friends and relatives. Memorial contributions may be made to the Montezuma Volunteer Fire Department, the American Legion Auxiliary or the Montezuma United Methodist Church. Holland-Coble Funeral Home of Montezuma is in charge of arrangements.

Verna Mae Baird, the daughter of Jerome and Myra (Fuller) Goodwin, was born on May 12, 1924 west of Malcom. She was a 1941 graduate of Montezuma High School. On Aug. 28, 1942, Verna was united in marriage to Roy Baird Sr. in Lancaster, Mo. To this union four children were born. Roy passed away Aug. 28, 2001 after 59 years of marriage. Verna worked as the Poweshiek County Deputy Auditor for 27 years retiring in December of 1989. Following her retirement, she served as the chairman of the absentee ballot

board of elections. Verna enjoyed cooking, sewing and crocheting. She made bibs for new babies at the hospital as well as numerous things for the Veterans Hospital in Knoxville. Verna also volunteered for Hospice and helped with Meals on Wheels. She was very active with the American Legion Auxiliary holding various offices and she belonged to the VFW Auxiliary. She was a wonderful mother, grandmother and great grandmother and enjoyed spending time with her family.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Roy Baird Sr.; one son in infancy, Del Baird; two brothers, Lyle (Arlene)(Bernice) Goodwin and Vernon (Bernice) Goodwin; two sisters, Eva (Walter) Hall and Maxine (Vernon) Turner and a grandson, Steven Schwertfeger.

Verna is survived by her children, Dr. Roy (Barb) Baird Jr. of Eau Claire, Wis., Judith Baird of Cedar Rapids and Gelene (Ronald) Schwertfeger of Cedar Rapids; her three grandchildren, Stephanie (Aaron) Baird-Masterson, Ronald (Melissa) Schwertfeger Jr. and John (Rebecca) Schwertfeger Sr.; seven great grandchildren, Kira Masterson, Rylee Masterson, Thane Masterson, MacKenzie Schwertfeger, Megan Schwertfeger, John Schwertfeger Jr. and Mason Schwertfeger; a step granddaughter, Sarah Kiefer and many nieces, nephews and friends.

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