VOYIAN LAVAUN (NORTHCUTT) RICHARDS
Voyian LaVaun (Northcutt) Richards, 96 of Mondovi, Wisc., passed away Tuesday, June 2, 2015. Graveside services were held on Saturday, June 6, 2015 at the Friends Cemetery in New Sharon.

Voyian was the daughter of Clark Earl and Susa Kathleen (Hull) Northcutt, was born on April 26, 1919, in her parents’ farmhouse near Taintor. She lived on the family farm and attended country school until she entered high school. She lived and worked with family friends until she graduated from New Sharon High School in 1936. She was very proud of her graduation.

She married Ralph L. Richards on November 1, 1937, and they lived in Pella, where their first child, Gary Lee, was born in 1938. A daughter, Cheryl Sue, was born September 1, 1940, and passed September 1, 1941. A daughter, Jerilyn June, was born November 4, 1942. Ralph had many health issues and, therefore, they moved a lot depending on health and jobs.

Voyian worked many jobs during her life; a welder in Kellogg, an owner/cook in their cafe in Sully, a farmer’s wife in three different locations in Wisconsin. During that time she also cooked in restaurants, catered weddings, and made beautiful wedding cakes (from scratch, of course). Then she got a job with Social Services in Buffalo County, Wisc., and remained there for over 20 years until her retirement. During most of that time they lived on a 40-acre farm near Gilmanton, Wisc.

Ralph passed in 1982, and Voyian remained on the farm until she could no longer be alone. She moved into an assisted living center in February 2004 in Rice Lake, Wisc., where she could be closer to her daughter. In April 2007 she was moved into the Rice Lake Convalescent Home and remained there until her death. She was a lifelong member of the Methodist Church and throughout her life she loved to sing hymns word for word without a hymnal. She enjoyed so many things: her family, church, cooking, sewing, playing cards, fishing, camping, gardening, mowing, and feeding her birds. There was nothing she wouldn’t try to do or fix.

Voyian will remain in the hearts of: Son, Gary (Marty) Richards of Kellogg; daughter, Jerilyn (Gary) Brion of Chetek, Wisc.; 12 grandchildren; 25 great-grandchildren; seven great-great grandchildren; sister-in-law Nancy Northcutt of New Sharon; and many nieces and nephews.

Voyian was preceded in death by her parents, Clark and Susa (Hull) Northcutt; infant daughter, Cheryl Sue; sisters, Eryne DeJong and Anna McDowell; brothers, Raymond, Lowell, Gordon, Clark Jr., Vernon, and Carl; husband, Ralph, and his siblings, Hazel, Mary, Viola, Lila, Orvill, Glen, Roy, John and David.