Mary Ellen Kelling, of Montezuma, passed away peacefully, Aug. 22, at the Montezuma Specialty Care facility. Funeral services were Friday, Aug. 26 at the Montezuma United Methodist Church. Memorial contributions may be made to the Montezuma Food Pantry or the Montezuma United Methodist Church.

Mary Ellen Kelling, the daughter of John and Hazel (Crawford) Edwards, was born on March 15, 1924 in Travisdale. On December 24, 1944, Mary Ellen was united in marriage to Fay Kelling in Fort Worth, TX. To this union three children were born: Ron, JoAnn and John. Mary Ellen taught school in Goldfield and also substitute taught in Clarion before purchasing a restaurant in Hampton in the late 1950's, renaming it Fay's Cafe. They were in the restaurant business for nearly 35 years.

In the early 1980's, Fay and Mary Ellen purchased a place at Lake Ponderosa near Montezuma. Fay passed away in 1988. Mary Ellen enjoyed playing solitaire, 500, Poker with the guys, Bingo, puzzles and watching Montezuma sports on the Montezuma local channel. She was an avid reader and a huge Chicago Cub and Iowa Hawkeye fan. Mary Ellen was a wonderful mother, grandmother and great grandmother. Her family was very important to her and she enjoyed playing dominos and rummi-kub with her grandchildren. Ellen volunteered with the Montezuma Food Pantry. She was a member of the Montezuma United Methodist Church, United Methodist Women, the Forest Home Club; KEN Club, the Montezuma Country Club and many other bridge groups.

Mary Ellen's memory will be cherished by her children, Ron (Diane) Kelling of Ankeny, JoAnn (Paul) Kefer of Montezuma and John (Joanne) Kelling of Des Moines; nine grandchildren and 14 great grandchildren and many other nieces, nephews and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Fay and two sisters, Virginia de St. Paer and Francine Schller.