Lillian Alberta Ryan, 86, of Toledo, passed away Wednesday, June 14, 2017 at the Mayflower Health Center in Grinnell under the care of Grinnell Regional Hospice. Funeral Services were held Saturday, June 17, 2017 at Christ United Methodist Church in Toledo with Pastor Brian Oliver officiating. Interment followed at Woodlawn Cemetery in Toledo. Visitation was Saturday, June 17, 2017 in Toledo.

Lillian was born on November 11, 1930, on the family farm in rural Chelsea, Iowa, the daughter of Hills and Agnes (Piesek) Klenk Sr. She graduated from Chelsea in the Class of 1948, where she was Valedictorian.

On April 26, 1954, she was united in marriage to James W. Ryan at St. Paul’s Methodist Church in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Lillian was a hardworking farmwife and raised a loving family. Prior to her marriage, she worked at Jack Hatt in Cedar Rapids. Lillian was a member of Chelsea United Methodist Church where she was involved in teaching Sunday School, Bible School and Kid’s Club. She later attended Christ United Methodist Church after they moved to Toledo. She was a wonderful baker, flower gardener, seamstress, and made a lot of doll clothes for her daughters and granddaughters. Lillian was previously an active 4-H mother. She loved her grandchildren and enjoyed spending time with them.

Survivors include three children, Jean Nelson of Cedar Falls, Julie Ryan of West Des Moines, and Don (Michelle) Ryan of Chelsea; four grandchildren; Mindy (Travis) Green of Ankeny, Michael (Jessica) Nelson of Clive, Kelly (Kurt) Townsend of Ames, and Kristy Ryan of Chelsea; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, James on July 2, 2007; her son-in-law, Rick Nelson; two brothers, Hillis Jr. and Lilburn Klenk; and one niece, Anne Wilcox.

A memorial fund has been established.

Kruse-Phillips Funeral Home, Tama-Toledo, is handling the arrangements.