Eileen Stella Schlesselman, 84

Eileen Stella Schlesselman was born September 15, 1921 near Guernsey, the daughter of Henry and Stella Roshek Meyer. She graduated from Guernsey High School in 1939. After graduation she lived with her Grandma Roshek in Victor for eight years where she worked as a telephone operator. Eileen was united in marriage to Everette (Shorty) Schlesselman on February 23, 1947 in Bendena, Kan. Together they lived and farmed in the Iowa County area for a number of years before moving to her home place south of Williamsburg in 1956. Eileen enjoyed gardening, canning, working crossword puzzles, reading, baking (which she was known for wonderful pies) and spending time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was a member of the St. Paul Lutheran Church in Williamsburg. Eileen died Wednesday, March 1, 2006 at Mercy Hospital in Iowa City after a brief illness at the age of 84 years, 5 months and 14 days.

She is survived by eight children: Allan (JoLinda) Schlesselman of Parnell, Donald (Karla) Schlesselman, and Robert (Dianne) Schlesselman all of Williamsburg, Harold (Jan) Schlesselman of Fostoria, Ohio, Joyce (Terry) Lillis of Des Moines, Richard (Karmen) Schlesselman of Parnell, Shirley (Brian) Weis of Pine Island, Minn., and Marilyn (Mark) Dolezal of Oxford; 17 grandchildren: James Schlesselman, Eric Schlesselman, Matthew Schlesselman, Dustin Schlesselman, Bradley Schlesselman, David Dolezal, Brian Lillis, Kodey Weis, Renee McGuire, Jennie Lillis, Anna Schlesselman, Katie Schlesselman, Michelle Schlesselman, Robin Thompson, Lori Schlesselman, Sarah Dolezal and Natalie Schlesselman; two step great-grandchildren: Anna Schlesselman and Sarah Schlesselman; three great-grandchildren: Josiah Thompson, Logan Schlesselman and Jack McGuire; two sisters: Luella Freundt of Victor, and Mildred Allee of Mt. Pleasant; and three sisters-in-law, Betty Schlesselman and Loretta Schlesselman both of Williamsburg, and Evelyn Foels of Victor; and a close friend of the family who was considered like a son, Richard Meyer of Parnell.

Eileen was preceded in death by her parents; her husband in 2003; a daughter, Delores Schlesselman in 1963; a brother, Walter; and three sisters, Evelyn Kuesel, Dolores Meyer, and Loretta Waskow.

Celebration of life service was held at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 4, at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Williamsburg. Pastor Carl Cloeter officiated. Burial was in the St. Paul Cemetery. Memorials are for St. Paul Lutheran Church, Hospice of Compassion for Iowa County, or Iowa City Hospice. Messages and tributes may be left at www.powellfuneralhomes.com under obituaries.

Honorary casket bearers were Renee McGuire, Jennie Lillis, Anna Schlesselman, Katie Schlesselman, Michelle Schlesselman, Robin Thompson, Lori Schlesselman, Sarah Dolezal and Natalie Schlesselman. Casket bearers were James Schlesselman, Eric Schlesselman, David Dolezal, Dustin Schlesselman, Brian Lillis, Kodey Weis, Matthew Schlesselman and Bradley Schlesselman. Organist was Pat Dellamuth and the soloist was Peggy Wardenburg singing "Abide with Me" and "In the Garden." Congregational hymn's "What a Friend We Have in Jesus," "Just as I Am," and "I Know that My Redeemer Lives."