Loretta Hatcher, 81

Loretta Hatcher, 81, of Oskaloosa, and formerly of rural What Cheer, died Monday, May 22, 2006 at the Mahaska Hospital, Oskaloosa.

A funeral Mass was held Wednesday, May 24, in the St. Mary's Catholic Church, Oskaloosa, with the Rev. Thomas Spiegel officiating. Following the funeral, as was her wish, her body was donated to the University of Iowa, College of Anatomy. A Rosary was recited Tuesday, May 23, in the Bates Funeral Chapel.

Loretta was born May 2, 1925 near Keswick, the daughter of Robert and Mary Ann Lenaghan Armstrong. She graduated from What Cheer High School and received her teaching certificate. She taught in country schools in Keokuk County for two years. On April 12, 1945, she was united in marriage to (Edward) Luverne Hatcher at St. Joseph's Church in What Cheer. Luverne died October 18, 2001. Following their marriage, they farmed southwest of What Cheer for many years. She moved into Oskaloosa in the summer of 2002. She was a member of St. Mary's Church, Oskaloosa, and enjoyed working with the ladies folding the church bulletins, cooking and baking, gardening, and participating in the Indianapolis Country Club, a neighborhood club. She dearly loved her family and her grandchildren were her delight. She loved riding with her husband on his Gold Wing motorcycle. They traveled all over the United States, and made motorcycle friends wherever they went.

Her family includes a son and his wife, Edward and Beverly Hatcher, of rural Grinnell, and a daughter and her husband, Sheila and Sam Brune, of West Point; four grandchildren, Michael and Jason Hatcher, Dr. Joshua Blomgren, and Lorelle Brune; four great-grandchildren, Cade, Konner, Mikayla, and Sydney Hatcher; a sister, Veronica Beaudoin of Florida; a sister-in-law, Ardith Armstrong of Oskaloosa and many nieces, nephews and friends.

Besides her husband, she was preceded in death by four brothers, Andy, Terry, Tommy and Pat Armstrong, and two sisters, Mary McKenna and Emily Davis.

Memorials may be made to St. Mary's Church, Oskaloosa.
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She is survived by one son Edward of rural Grinnell; one daughter Sheila Brune of West Point; four grandchildren; four great grandchildren and one sister Veronica Beaudoin of Florida. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; four brothers, Andy, Terry, Tommy and Pat Armstrong, and two sisters Mary McKenna and Emily Davis.