Iva Harthoorn, 84, Grinnell

Iva Fern Arkema Harthoorn was born to Harry and Harriet Vande Kamp Vande Krol on March 14, 1923 at the family home south of Lynnville, Iowa. She passed away on Tuesday, November 6, 2007 at the Friendship Manor in Grinnell, Iowa where she had been a resident since 2003.

On November 14, 1944 Iva was united in marriage with John Arkema at the Sully Christian Reformed Church parsonage. To this union five sons were born: Carl, Ervin, Milo, Verlan, and Wesley. The family farmed north of Sully for many years. John passed away June 23, 1969. Iva then moved to Sully and met Joe Harthoorn who she later married on May 7, 1982. Again sadness entered Iva’s life when she lost her second husband, Joe, on December 6, 2000.

Iva worked as a clerk at Boat’s Grocery Store and Verschure’s Market and for over five years she was a nurse’s aid at the Grinnell Regional Medical Center. She was an active member of the First Reformed Church in Sully and was a member of the Martha Circle at her church. She enjoyed crocheting, reading, gardening, and canning produce from her garden.

Those left to cherish Iva’s memory are her five sons and their wives: Carl and Muriel Arkema of North Muskegon, Michigan, Ervin and Linda Arkema of Sully, Iowa, Milo and Jentine Arkema of Edina, Minnesota, Verlan and Kathy Arkema of Pella, Iowa, and Wesley and Paula Arkema of Kellogg, Iowa; seventeen grandchildren; ten great-grandchildren; three step-sons and their wives: Bryce and Betty Harthoorn of Princeton, Iowa, Donavan and Judy Harthoorn of Sarasota, Florida, Kurt and Arloa Harthoorn of Sully, Iowa; six step-grandchildren; four step-great-grandchildren; two brothers: Doyle Vande Krol of Sully, Iowa, and Robert Vande Krol of Searsboro, Iowa.

Preceding her in death were her husbands, John Arkema and Joe Harthoorn and her parents.

Iva will always be remembered by her family and her friends as a caring and loving person.