

## Alice Underwood



Alice Gertrude Underwood, 98, of Montezuma died Tuesday, May 8, 2007, at Montezuma Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Montezuma.

A memorial service was conducted Friday, May 11, in the United Methodist Church in Montezuma with burial following in the Masonic-I.O.O.F. Cemetery in Montezuma. Memorials may be made in her name to be designated by her family to her favorite charities.

The daughter of Charles Frederick and Lizzie Hallie Johnson Underwood, she was born April 26, 1909, in Montezuma. Following the death of her parents, she was raised by her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bowers. She studied music at the MacPhail Music School in Minneapolis, Minn., and the Ball School of Theatre Organ in Chicago, Ill. She returned to Montezuma in 1932 and the following year began work in the office of the Poweshiek County Engineer where she was employed for the next 40 years. She was a member of the United Methodist Church which she served as church organist for over 65 years, playing for over 975 funerals, many weddings and more than 3,000 church services.

HR May 14, 2007

She was a member of Vashti Rebekah Lodge for over 50 years, a past noble grand and recording secretary; an organizing member of Montezuma chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution of which she was regent and registrar; Chapter DA, P.E.O.s serving as president; Mahaska chapter, Daughters of American Colonists, past regent and recording secretary; Iowa Society of Daughters of the American Revolution, state recording secretary; and state registrar; honorary state regent, Iowa Society Daughters of American Colonists; president, Iowa Society Daughters of Colonial Wars; president of the Iowa Society, Dames of the Court of Honor; member, Hueguenot Society of Iowa; charter member of Hereditary Order of the First Families of Massachusetts; Poweshiek County Historical and Genealogical Society, and social clubs.

She was preceded in death by her parents, one sister and one brother in infancy, and her uncle and aunt Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bowers.

# Alice G. Underwood, 98



MR - May 16, 2007

Alice G. Underwood, 98, of Montezuma, died Tuesday, May 8, 2007, at the Montezuma Nursing & Rehabilitation Center.

Her funeral service was held Friday, May 11, at the United Methodist Church, Montezuma, with Pastor Jo Hary officiating. Interment was at the Masonic I.O.O.F. Cemetery, Montezuma. Music was provided by the United Methodist Choir with Elsie Holland, organist. The arrangements were entrusted to Watts Funeral Home, Montezuma.

Honorary casket bearers were Dick Bowers, Ed Bowers and Nancy Lowe.

Casket bearers were members of the Methodist Church Choir.

Alice Gertrude Underwood, the daughter of Charles Frederick and Lizzie Hallie Johnson Underwood, was born on April 26, 1909, in Montezuma. Following the death of her mother in 1916, Alice made her home with her father and grandmother Underwood until her death in 1922. At that time, Alice went to live with her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bowers, and remained with them until their deaths in 1953.

Alice graduated from the Montezuma Senior High School with the Class of

1927. After a brief teaching career and work in the First National Bank of Montezuma, she continued her musical education at MacPhail Music School in Minneapolis, Minn., and the Ball School of Theatre Organ playing in Chicago, Ill.

While living in Chicago, she worked in the savings department of the Union Bank of Chicago. She returned to Montezuma in 1932 and the following year started work in the Poweshiek County Engineer's office where she was employed for the next forty years.

Alice was a member of the United Methodist Church of Montezuma having been received into full membership at the age of six years. She served as the church organist for over 77 years and, during her career as an organist, played for over 1,000 funerals, many weddings and more than 3,600 church services. She was also a member of the United Methodist Women and served the local unit as president for two terms; the Poweshiek County Historical and Genealogical Society, and other social clubs.

Alice's patriotic groups included Daughters of the American Revolution, Daughters of the American Colonists, Dames of the Court of Honor and Iowa Society Daughters of Colonial Wars, Iowa Society USD 1812 and The Huguenot Society of Iowa.

Memorial contributions may be designated in Alice's name.