H-R MAY 1,2003

Fern Louise Steffen

Fern Louise Steffen, 90 of rural North English <u>died Saturday</u>. April 26, at Mercy Hospital in Iowa City.

A funeral service will be held Saturday, May 3, at 10:30 a.m. at Watts Funeral Home in Montezuma. The Rev. Reva Rimmer, pastor of Guernsey United Methodist Church, will officiate. Vocal music will be by Amy Stoffen. Visitation will take place after 9 a.m. Friday, May 2, at the funeral home with the family present Friday from 6 to 8 p.m. Honorary casket bearers are her eight grandsons. Mark Steffen, Scott Steffen, Shawn Steffen, Roger Steffen Jr., Allen Sinn, Corey Brown, Kyle Steffen and Matt Steffen. Cremation will follow the funeral service with inurnment at Jackson Township Cemetery in Montezuma, Memorials may be made to the American Diabetes Foundation.

She was born April 11, 1928, in Malcom, the daughter of Benjamin J. and Genevieve Illian McKeag. She graduated from Malcom High School. On Jan. 29, 1938, she married Otto Steffen at Newton. They farmed near Ewart, Searsboro. Deep River, Montezuma and North English. Following the death of her husband in 1979, she continued to live on the family farm with her son Roy and family.

She is survived by her seven children, Kenneth of Grinnell, Mary Sinn of Williamsburg, Roger of Guernsey, Sue Brown of Des Moines and Roy Steffen and Bob Steffen of North English and Martha Wilcox of Drakesville: 12 grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband; one son Larry; one granddaughter; one grandson: two sisters Katherine Main and Erma McKeag and two brothers Kenneth and Earl McKeag.

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Fern was born April 11, 1913, at Malcom, the daughter of Benjamin J. and Genevieve (Illian) McKeag. She graduated from Malcom High School. On Jan.

29, 1938, she was united in marriage with Otto Steffen at Newton. To This union, eight children were born. They farmed near Ewart, Searsboro, Deep River, Montezuma and North English. Otto died Jan. 7, 1979. Fern continued to live on the farm with her son, Roy, and his family. She loved her family and enjoyed gardening and flowers.

Those left to honor her memory are her seven children, Kenneth (& June) Steffen of Grinnell, Mary Sinn of Williamsburg, Roger (& Mary) Steffen of Guernsey, Sue (& Donald) Brown of Des Moines, Roy (& Faye) Steffen and Bob (& Mary) Steffen, all of North English, and Martha (& Rex) Wilcox of Drakesville; 12 grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Otto; one son, Larry; one granddaughter; one grandson; two sisters, Katherine Main and Erma McKeag; and two brothers, Kenneth and Earl McKeag.

MR APREL 30, 2003

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