Arlene G. Swangel, 85

Arlene Georgia Swangel, 85, of Marshalltown died Sunday, May 25, at Marshalltown Medical and Surgical Center.

Her funeral service was Wednesday, May 28, at Watts Funeral Home, Montezuma, with Mr. Cletus Miller of the West Liberty Church of Christ officiating. Interment was at West Liberty Cemetery west of Montezuma.

Casket bearers were Jim Fuller, Sam Fuller, Steve Fuller, Aaron Fuller, Clinton Fuller, Josh Scovill, Christian Swangel, Adam Swangel, Joe Wilson and Alan Boone.

Arlene was born at Terril, Dickerson County, Iowa, on Feb. 18, 1918, to Walter E. and Edna (Gilchrist) Lennox. A twin brother, Arlan, died at six weeks old. She attended various country schools and later high school at Grinnell, Barnes City and Lacey. She was married to Ralph Swangel on Nov. 25, 1936, at Montezuma. They started farming near Malcom in 1943. In 1950, they moved to Los Angeles, Calif., for eight years where she worked for a manufacturing company. They moved back to lowa in 1959 and farmed near Gladbrook. They were the parents of twin daughters, Shirley and Jo Ann, and two sons, Jarold and Harold. On Aug. 26, 1934, while attending the Union Mills Christian Church, she was baptized into Christ in the North Skunk River. After meeting her future husband, Ralph, she began attending the Church of Christ with him and was a faithful member for over 65 years.

Arlene worked at the Gladbrook Nursing Home, Westbrook Acres, as a cook. She later became the activity director. Later, she took nursing courses in geriatrics after which she began to care for elderly patients in their own homes.

She and her husband retired and moved to Marshalltown in 1980. Ralph died on Aug. 2, 2001. Arlene's life centered around her family and grandchildren. She loved to cook for her family, sew and work puzzles.

Survivors include Shirley Ann (and Jerry) Tuttle of Wellsburg; JoAnn Fuller of Marshalltown; Harold (and Joyce) Swangel of Morrilton, Ark., and Jarold (and Karen) Swangel of Waterloo; 20 grandchildren; 46 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; two brothers, Cecil Lennox of Douds and Donald Lennox of Allerton; one sister, Hallene (and Carl) Darland of Oskaloosa and other friends and relatives.

She was preceded in death by Ralph, her husband of 64 years; a twin brother, Arlan; a brother, Cloyd Lennox; a sister Maxine Price and a son-in-law, Jim Fuller.