

Record 8-1-13

DOROTHY KRUSE



Dorothy Kruse, 102, of What Cheer, passed away Monday, July 29, 2013, at the Mahaska Health Partnership. Funeral services will begin at 2 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 1 at the What Cheer United Methodist Church. Burial will be in the Indianapolis Cemetery near What Cheer. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Assoc. or to the What Cheer United Methodist Church.

Dorothy Gladys Kruse was born on May 13, 1911, on a farm near Thornburg. Her parents were Grover Myerly and Velma Shepherd-Myerly. She grew up on the farm southeast of Thornburg and attended rural schools in Keokuk County. She graduated from high school on May 11, 1928 in What Cheer. In high school, she took the teacher training classes. After graduation from high school at age 18, she started teaching in rural schools for \$50 a month. Dorothy attended college at the University of Northern Iowa and earned the Elementary Teaching Certificate.

On June 18, 1941, she married Harry D. Kruse. They purchased the Wilson farm north of What Cheer. They lived on the farm for 40 years until they moved into What Cheer. Harry preceded her in death on April 16, 2001.

Dorothy taught fifth grade in Thornburg Consolidated School and later in the What Cheer Independent School district. Dorothy continued her education by attending Drake University and William Penn College. She graduated from William Penn College in June 1965 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Education.

After retirement from teaching, Dorothy was elected to serve on the What Cheer town council on Nov. 3, 1987. She served two terms on the council. Dorothy was a member of the United Methodist Church of What Cheer. She taught an adult Sunday school class, sang in the choir and was the organist for the church for many years. She was also a member of the Lydia Circle and helped with many church activities as long as she was able.

Dorothy enjoyed gardening, helping her husband Harry with his antique cars and solving crossword puzzles.

Dorothy has seen the changes in the world from the time of the horse and buggy to the exploration of the planets. She was born in the month the hull of the Titanic was launched, and she passed away in the month the Cassini spacecraft took a picture of earth from the orbit of Saturn. In the time between she survived the Great Depression, two World Wars, attended a World's Fair.

Dorothy was also preceded in death by her brother Lowell Myerly and her sister Elinor Myerly D'Arezzo. She is survived by a son, Duane Sidney Kruse, a granddaughter Sydney K. Woehler of St. Louis, a grandson Oscar O. Kruse who is currently serving in Korea with the U.S. Army and several cousins and nieces.