

Alberta W. Brosnahan, 87

Alberta W. Brosnahan, age 87, died Saturday, Feb. 13, 2010, at Brooklyn Community Estate, Brooklyn, following a brief illness. Mass of Christian burial will be at 10 a.m., Wednesday, Feb. 17, at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Brooklyn, with Fr. Brian Shepley officiating. Burial will be in Calvary Cemetery, Brooklyn. A memorial fund has been established.



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She is survived by her children, Loretta Hanson (Stephen) of Williamsburg, Rita Brosnahan-Gerleman (Joe) of Johnston, Anita Brosnahan Johnson (Jim) of Ames, and Marty of Nevada; 10 grandchildren, Meg Johnson of Madison, Wis., Alec Johnson of Iowa City, Breehan Gerleman-Lucchini (Andrew) of Ames, Logan Gerleman of Grimes, Conn Hanson (Eric Minton) of New York City, Morgan Hanson (Angela) of Pittsburgh, Pa., Hanorah Curry (Aaron) of Washington, D.C., Shelley Terpstra of Ames, Anna VerPloeg (Brent) of Grimes, and David Terpstra (Abby) of Bellingham, Wash.; five great-grandchildren, Thomas and James Hanson, and Ben, Andrew and Ethan VerPloeg. Also surviving is a son-in-law, Harv Terpstra of Ames.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Martin, in 1972; a daughter, Mary Rose Terpstra in 2000; and two brothers, Arnold and Kenneth Benda.

Alberta Wilhelmina Benda was born Nov. 24, 1922, in Jefferson Township, rural Poweshiek County, the daughter of James and Rose Posekany Benda. She graduated from Hartwick High School and married Martin Edward Brosnahan on Jan. 7, 1947, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Chelsea. Alberta was employed as a postal clerk and was postmaster in Brooklyn for many years. She enjoyed tending her garden, feeding the birds and squirrels and going on walks with her dog, Holka. She was a longtime member of the BBB's, the American Legion Auxiliary, and was active in the Democratic Party. She was a member of St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Brooklyn.

Online condolences may be extended to the family at www.klosterfuneralhome.com.