

Carmaleta Estes, 88

Carmaleta Estes of Montezuma and formerly of Boonesville, went to be with her Lord on March 9, 2010.

Funeral services were held Saturday, March 13, 2010, at Van Meter United Methodist Church in Van Meter. Interment will be held at a later date. Hamilton's Funeral Home in West Des Moines was in charge of arrangements.



Carmaleta Dolores Estes, daughter of Odie and Martha (Thompson) Oliver, was born Jan. 23, 1921, in Des Moines. She was united in marriage to Edward Estes on July 6, 1939. They had three children, Judith, Sandra and Larry.

Carmaleta was a diamond classifer for Ardans for many years. She enjoyed sewing projects such as wedding dresses for her daughters, granddaughter and sister; formals, and dance costumes. She enjoyed cooking, baking fancy cakes and cookies, listening to music, and singing in the choir. She instructed a water exercise class for 13 years at the "Y," was an avid reader and enjoyed working on her photo albums. Carmaleta loved animals, especially her dog, Yoyo, and rescued many animals in need over the years with the help of her husband, Ed. She was a member of the Van Meter Methodist Church. Her most important thing in life was family. She attended all family functions and events until her death.

Carmaleta is survived by her daughter Judith Thompson, Montezuma; son, Larry (Marie) Estes, Albany, Ga.; son-in-law, Lonnie Parsons, Des Moines; eight grandchildren: Deborah (Kenny) Darland, Montezuma; Jeff (Sandy) Fisher, West Des Moines; Vicki (Jay Sparks) Monk-Watts, Montezuma; Troy Parsons, Bondurant; Todd Parsons, Des Moines; Tracy (Shari) Parsons, Des Moines; Robert (Bridget) Estes, and Timothy (Peggy Buyers) Estes; 19 great-grandchildren; 12 great-great grandchildren; sister, Cherie (Marvin) Morris; and two nieces.

Carmaleta was preceded in death by her husband, Edward; and daughter, Sandra Parsons.

Memorials may be directed to the Van Meter Methodist Church in Van Meter, or to the Poweshiek Animal League Shelter in Grinnell.