

**Joann Winnie
Lanser Zylstra**

GH-R
8-7-2014



Joann Winnie Lanser Zylstra, 92, died at St. Francis Manor July 16, 2014.

Funeral services were held July 21, 2014 at the Sully Christian Reformed Church. Van Dyk - Duven Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

She was born on Oct. 4, 1921, near Killduff, the daughter of Johannes 'John' and Elizabeth 'Lizzie' Bruxvoort

Lanser. She attended the Sully Christian Grade School in Sully. When she was 15, her education was interrupted upon the death of her mother. She, being their seventh child, then helped her father keep house on their farm north of Sully. She was baptized at the Sully Christian Reformed Church where she made profession of her faith as a young adult and became a lifelong member. It was during this time that she met Ludolph Zylstra and they were united in marriage on April 1, 1943, at her family home at Killduff.

They had five children and farmed north of Lynnvile, and then in the Searsboro vicinity. They continued to farm until their retirement in 1987 when they moved into Sully. Joann was a devoted homemaker and sold Avon products, and was an avid gardener who could make something grow from almost nothing. After 62 years of marriage, her husband died in 2005 and she continued to live in their Sully home until 2009, when she became a resident at Seeland Park/St. Francis Manor in Grinnell.

She is survived by her children, Terry Zylstra of Steger, Ill., Fonda Benson of Grinnell, Denny Zylstra of Lynnvile, and Joani Hasley of Hiawassee, Ga.; 15 grandchildren; 29 great-grandchildren; and her siblings Elizabeth 'Betty' Nikkel of Sully, Peter Lanser of Denver, Colo., John Lanser of Pella, and Marvin Lanser of Holland, Mich.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband Ludolph Zylstra; a daughter, Karma Lisk in March 2011; and her siblings Mattie Jansen, Brant Lanser, Arie Lanser, Durky Van Kooten, Nellie Van Maaren, Henry Lanser, Harriet Van Wyk and a brother who died in infancy.