

Record 4-16-2015

**RETHA RAE RHOADS**

Retha Rae Rhoads, 77 of Brooklyn, died Saturday, April 11, 2015 at Brooklyn Community Estate, Brooklyn. Funeral service will be held at



10:30 a.m., Wednesday, April 15, 2015, at Kloster Funeral Home, Brooklyn, with Rev. Dorothy Banzhaf officiating. Burial will be in the Brooklyn Memorial Cemetery. A memorial fund has been established

Retha is survived by her sons, Steve (Melia) of Brooklyn, and Bruce (Debora) of Chelsea;

seven grandchildren, Callie Rhoads of Brooklyn, Clint Rhoads (Mindy) of Brooklyn, Carly Rhoads of Ottumwa, Cliff Rhoads (Joey) of Brooklyn, Danny Mai (Larisha) of Newton, Kaycee Rhoads of Grinnell, and Jaymee Rhoads of Brooklyn; 11 great-grandchildren, Layne, Beckett, Caleb, Colette, Maddox, Jaxson, Braxton, Gerrick, Sabrie, Jadeth and Alyssa; a brother-in-law, Tommy Rhoads; and three sisters-in-law, Ruth Clark, Linda Rhoads and Joyce Rhoads.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband James in 2010; a sister, Mary Sexton; and a great-grandson, Silas in infancy.

Retha Rae Seams was born July 6, 1937, in rural Mahaska County, the daughter of Sebastian Seams and Ruth Werner Seams. Her father Bess was a coal miner and small farmer. She was always outside with her father helping with chores including gathering and selling eggs and helping pick corn by hand. Retha learned the value of hard work and a sense of family at a young age. A big treat as a child was listening to a Chicago Cubs game after which her father would remove the battery from the radio until the next game. She looked forward to family trips to town on Saturday evenings.

Retha was married to James Franklin Rhoads on December 10, 1957. She worked full time as a telephone operator to help support the family while Jim attended William Penn College to earn a teaching degree. In addition to her duties as a wife and mother, she was almost always employed outside the home as a school cook, store clerk and teachers aide. Retha always raised a large garden to can and freeze food.

Family was Retha's life and her main hobby. Having grandkids spend the night was very special for her and Jim. She loved to cook for her family, and her fried chicken was a favorite of all. Retha was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother.

**BROOKLYN RESIDENT**

**Retha Rae Rhoads, 77**

*PCCR 4-18-2015*



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P.M. Tuesday, April 14, 2015, Kloster Funeral Home, Brooklyn. A memorial fund has been established

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Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.klosterfuneralhome.com](http://www.klosterfuneralhome.com).