

MR. AUG. 10, 2005

Francene P. Rooda, 69

Francene P. Rooda, 69, of rural Searsboro, died Wednesday, Aug. 3.

A private graveside service and burial was held at West Liberty Cemetery near Searsboro.

She is survived by two sons, Gary Rooda of Illinois and Grant Rooda of rural Searsboro; four daughters, Norma Whitehead of Pella, Gayla Van Soelen of Sully,

Fonda Rucks of Vermillion, S.D. and Heidi Brand of rural Searsboro; a brother, Howard Westerkamp of Pella; two sisters, Mildred Vos of Reasnor and Norma Van Dyke of Pella and ten grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her father.

Memorials in her name may be made to the Mahaska County Hospice.

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A private graveside service and burial will be held at West Liberty Cemetery near Searsboro. Visiting hours begin at 10 a.m. on Friday at the Harden Funeral Home in New Sharon; the family will greet friends from 6 to 8 p.m. that evening.

She was born Oct. 17, 1935, in Mahaska County, the daughter of Peter H. and Nellie Heimstra Westerkamp. She was a 1953 graduate of Pella Christian High School.

On June 10 of 1953, she married Gerrit G. Rooda at the Peoria Christian Reformed Church. They farmed in the Otley and Monroe areas before settling on the farm east of Searsboro. They added their own dairy operation in 1975.

She was an active member of the New Hope Community Church in Pella and a member of the Bunker Hill Community Club in Searsboro, as well as of several local and state horse associations. She was also involved in the activities of her grandchildren. She enjoyed being on the farm with her horses and spending time with her family.

She is survived by her mother; two

AT-R AUGUST 4, 2005