



Virginia Likens
Aug. 17, 1924 - Apr. 18, 2017

Virginia Bunting Likens, 92 of Barnes City died April 8, at Mahaska Health Partnership Hospice Serenity House, Oskaloosa. Services will be at 2 p.m. April 14, at Holland-Coble Funeral Home, Montezuma. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service. Burial will be held in Barnes City Cemetery in Barnes City. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Barnes City Volunteer Fire Department or the Stephens Memorial Animal Shelter.

Virginia was born Aug. 17, 1924 to Clyde and Macy Bunting. She grew up on a farm near New Sharon, where she also attended school. Upon graduating high school, she immediately began her life-long teaching career. She taught in her early years in several one-room country schools (a feat which was recently honored in an article in "Our Iowa" magazine), eventually teaching in Barnes City and New Sharon, until retiring in 1989.

Virginia lived with her parents until 1966 when she married Paul Likens. Virginia's life was full of a desire to help and serve everyone around her. Her copies of school yearbooks have many handwritten notes by students that began "You were my favorite teacher because..."

Even throughout her last years, when she was living alone and in frequent pain, her thoughts were not of herself but of all the others she knew were in need.

Virginia was well known for her delicious and huge meals for family and friends, for her large and beautiful summer gardens.

Virginia was preceded in death by her parents, siblings, husband and countless dear friends. She is survived by brother-in-law Donald Baker; two nieces, two nephews, six great-nieces and great-neph-

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Record 4-20-2017

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