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11-13-2017

## Bernice Smith

Bernice Smith, 88, passed away on Sunday, November 5, 2017. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, November 18 at 11:00 a.m. at Sully Community Church. Burial was in Woodland Cemetery in Lynnvile. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be designated to Sully Community Church, 12559 S 92nd Ave E, PO Box 463, Sully, IA 50251, or to Lynnvile Historical Society, PO Box 113, Lynnvile, IA 50153.



Bernice was born on August 29, 1929, to Lemert and Della Renaud Brush. She was born on the family farm outside of Lynnvile. Bernice was a star basketball player for Lynnvile High School. She graduated as Valedictorian of the Class of 1948.

In 1950, Bernice was united in marriage with Carl Vernon Jay. To this union two daughters were born, Beth Lorraine and Jody Lynn. Carl Vernon passed away in 1977. In 1978, Bernice married Robert "Smitty" Smith. He passed away in 2010.

Bernice lived in Lynnvile all of her life and was active in her community. She was a member of the Lynnvile Woman's Club for over 50 years, serving in various offices including President. In addition, she was a volunteer at the Old Wagaman Mill for the Lynnvile Historical Society, a Girl Scout leader and a member of the Lynnvile Saddle Club. She had membership in the Lynnvile Friends Church as well as the Sully Community Church, where she served as a Sunday School teacher, pianist and organist. Bernice retired from a lengthy career with the Lynnvile Post Office, where she served as Postmaster for several years. She also had worked at Maytag, Dr. Dick Sparks' office and was a bookkeeper for Lynnvile-Sully Community Schools.

Bernice was a wonderful cook. She and Smitty had a large vegetable garden and they canned meats and vegetables and sold produce at the Farmers' Market. Bernice was known at the Farmers' Market for the fruit and pecan pies she brought to sell each week. She enjoyed traveling and visited all 50 states as well as Israel, Egypt, Japan, Australia, Mexico, New Zealand and Europe. She especially enjoyed flying down to Florida to visit Jody and Jim and her granddaughters. She and both husbands enjoyed boating and hosting guests at their second home at Lake Ponderosa.

Bernice was a loving mother and a faithful Christian woman. She is survived by two daughters, Beth Jordan (Ron Haug) of Pleasant Hill and Jody (Jim) Nielsen of Pensacola, Fla.; four grandchildren, Jessica (Travis) Toohey, Aaron (Kendra) Haug, Alyssa Nielsen and Lexie Nielsen; two great grandchildren Tyler Johnson and T.J. Toohey; her sister Lois (Don) Vander Schel; and brother-in-law Floyd De Boef. She was preceded in death by her parents; husbands; her brother Rex Brush; and sisters Delores Boggs, Harriet De Boef, Mildred Lisk and Cheryl Brush.