

## Naomi (Johannes) Thompson

July 27, 1925 - Nov. 2, 2020

Naomi (Johannes) Thompson passed away November 2, at Southern Hills Specialty Care, Osceola.

Services were held November 7, at Holland-Coble Funeral Home, Montezuma. Burial was in White Oak Cemetery near Thornburg. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Iowa Barn Foundation. Holland-Coble Funeral Home of Montezuma is in charge of arrangements.

Naomi was born Edith Naomi McClune on 27 July 1925, the second daughter of Robert James (RJ) McClune and Mary Ellen (Dougherty) McClune. Naomi was born at home as a "blue baby" and, at age 12, contracted polio, which led to numerous health problems off-and-on for the rest of her life.

Naomi grew up on the family farm, on Poweshiek-Keokuk County line. She attended church with the family at White Oak Presbyterian Church, as her faith grew stronger she became a member of Deep River Community Church.

At the age of 18, Naomi married Paul Edwin Balmer from Beaumont, TX December 30, 1943. To that marriage four children were born: Calvin, David, Everett, and Juanita. Paul and Naomi were divorced in 1950.

Naomi continued to live on the Moore Place, a family farm near Thornburg. She raised the four children alone while working in a poultry dressing plant at Deep River.

On 24 December 1951, she married Arthur Johannes, a bachelor who lived a mile east of her parent's farm. Within 2 years, the family moved to the Axtell

Farm which was three miles south of Deep River. They lived there the rest of their married life. Arthur adopted the four children in 1963.

To keep her family fed, Naomi worked tirelessly farming, raising over 200 broilers and nesting hens, and tending three very large gardens and a fruit tree orchard. She also lovingly tended several flower beds around the garden and the house. She enjoyed the hummingbirds and butterflies they attracted.

Once the kids were away from home, Naomi went to work as a cashier at various convenience store gas stations close to home. Her husband, Arthur, died of a heart attack in September 1990. Due to her loneliness, she left the farm and moved to an apartment in Marion, where she met Roger Thompson of Monticello, a few years later. They were married February 20, 1998, Roger died of heart valve failure in December 1998. During their short time together they enjoyed traveling the country and visiting family members. They both loved to help with projects whenever they could.

Naomi continued to live in the Mason City house she and Roger had lived. In 2012, after several bad falls, she moved in with Everett and Jane in Mason City. She lived there about two years and, by that time, was showing signs of dementia.

In April 2014, Naomi went to live at Southern Hills Specialty Care in Osceola, where David and Sara lived. She loved to talk and visit with people at the Care Center.

Naomi was preceded in death by her parents; two sisters: Bernice McClune and Esther Harriman; one brother, Lee McClune; and two husbands: Arthur Johannes and Roger Thompson.

She is survived by two siblings, Dorthy McClune of Malcolm, and Paul McClune of Gibson, and her four children: Calvin Paul (Lorna Hopkins) Johannes of Fairfield, David Harold (Sara Carpenter) Johannes of Osceola, Everett Allen (Jane Bentzin) Johannes of Mason City and Juanita Charlene (Duane "Duey") Brandt of Huntsville, ALA.