

Rachel L. Bishop, 81



Rachel L. Bishop, 81, of Mason City and formerly of Lake Ponderosa, died on Tuesday, April 25, 2006 at Heritage Care Center in Mason City.

Her funeral service was held on Saturday, April 29, at the Green Mountain United Church of Christ, Green Mountain, with the Rev. Howard Lord officiating. Interment was at Green Mountain Cemetery.

Pallbearers were her grandsons, Greg Holl, Scott Holl, Kevin Holl, Tim Bishop, Jacob Bishop, Andrew Dittmer, James Bishop, Adam Dittmer, Dylan Bishop, Joshua Bishop and Josiah Bishop.

Rachel was born on June 25, 1924, at Newark, Ohio, the daughter of Stanley and Mary (Perks) Stretton. She attended Newark schools for 10 years before receiving her GED. She was united in marriage with Cloyd Bishop on Dec. 27, 1940 at Lima,

Ohio. They made their home in Ohio for many years before moving to Iowa. Cloyd and Rachel served many communities in Iowa through their ministries, including 10 years at the Green Mountain Methodist Church. Rachel was a nurse's aide for 10 years and a homemaker. She was a devoted pastor's wife and served as a Sunday School teacher for many years. Rachel enjoyed ministering to the elderly, volunteer work, and spending time with her family and grandkids. She was a loving and caring wife, mom, grandma, great-grandma and friend.

Survivors include her three sons, David (and Mary) Bishop of Rock Falls, Rick (and Evonne) Bishop of Illinois, and Steve (and Rebekka) Bishop of Toledo; two daughters, Judy (Ellis) Holl of Kensington, Minn. and Rosemary (and Roger) Dittmer of Coon Rapids, Minn.; her 23 grandchildren and 26 great-grandchildren.

Rachel was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Cloyd, in 1999; her daughter, Susan, in infancy; and grandson Jeremiah Bishop.

MR MAY 3, 2006