

Martha Ann Simmons, 77

Martha Ann Simmons, 77, passed away on Thursday, July 6, at the Brooklyn Community Estates from complications of Alzheimers. Family burial of cremains was at 10 a.m. on Monday at Ivy Hill Cemetery, Malcom. Celebration of Life services were held at 11 a.m. on Monday at Madison Church of Christ, rural Brooklyn. Dennis Smith officiated. Arrangements were with Nevenhoven Funeral Home, Brooklyn.

Mrs. Simmons, the daughter of Robert Gordon Farley and Nellie Mildred Blakely Farley, was born near Malcom on February 13, 1929. She graduated from Grinnell High School in 1946. She also attended State Teachers College in Cedar Falls.

She was married to William David Simmons at the Malcom Presbyterian Church on May 15, 1949. The couple lived their life in Brooklyn. On July 22, 2004, she entered the Brooklyn Community Estates.

Martha was a member of the Madison Church of Christ. In high school she was elected President of the Poweshiek County 4-H. After college, she worked as a secretary for DeLong Sporting Goods until the birth of her family, and later owned and operated Flowers by Simmons. Volunteering also was a very important part her life where she worked as a Cub Scott Leader, 4-H Leader, was on the Poweshiek County Mental Health Board, was a Brooklyn Activity Center Founding Board Member, and a Poweshiek County Fair Committee Member. For her work with 4-H, she was recognized with the 4-H Alumni award.

She enjoyed dancing in Des Moines with Bill and friends, her many trips with Bill, her trips with Boo to Cornell football games, her flowers, knitting and craft work, cooking and canning, and she always had a smile on her face when she was mowing her lawn. She was a fan of the Cornell Rams and the Iowa Hawkeyes.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Gordon and Nellie; her husband, Bill; her brother, Burdette Farley; and her favorite dog, Boo.

Survivors include her two daughters, Sheila of Folsom, Calif., and Marnell Moss and her husband, Randy, of Lubbock, Texas; her five sons, Mike of Iowa City, Pat and his wife, Martha, of Advance, N.C., Rod of Des Moines, Mark and his wife, Tammy, of Milo, and Dick R. Simmons of Mount Vernon; eleven grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. She is also survived by her sister and brother-in-laws, Ruthlene and Wallace Cleppe.



8c Jul 7, 2006