

Nellie Westerkamp, 97, Pella

Nellie Lurana Westerkamp was born to John F. and Maggie (Visser) Hiemstra on Aug. 16, 1909, near Otley. She passed away at the Pella Hospice Comfort House on Feb. 7, 2007, at the age of 97 years, five months, 21 days.

Nellie attended and graduated from Valley View Country School. At a young age, she made profession of faith at the Otley Reformed Church.

On Feb. 15, 1933, Nellie was united in marriage with Peter H. Westerkamp at her parents' home in Pella. To this union four children were born: Francene, Mildred, Howard, and Norma.

Nellie and Pete farmed near Peoria, for 40 years and were members of the Peoria Christian Reformed Church. In 1976, they

moved to Pella and became members of the Third Reformed Church. Nellie was currently a member of Trinity Reformed Church in Pella.

Nellie had many interests and while living on the farm she enjoyed gardening and flowers. She kept busy with various crocheting projects, quilting, making afghans and teddy bears. They loved to travel and she often talked about their visits to Holland. Nellie was able to read and write the Dutch language and kept the letters going between some of their Dutch relatives. Nellie felt the importance of family history and also wrote stories about her childhood. She loved having relatives and friends stay at her home and was always ready to visit over a cup of coffee.

Those left to cherish her memory

are her children and their spouses: Mildred and Clifford Vos of Reasnor, Howard and Bonnie Westerkamp of Pella, and Norma and Wayne Van Dyke of Pella; her sister, Leona (Mrs. John E.) TerLouw and her sister-in-law, Jeanette Esloo both of Pella; 19 grandchildren; 57 great-grandchildren; and seven great-great grandchildren.

Preceding her in death were her parents; husband, Peter H. on May 23, 1994; her daughter, Francene Pearl Rooda in 2005; three brothers: Frank, Martin, John C.; six sisters: Tillie Poortinga, Emma Buwalda, Cornelia Vriezelaar, Mary Gosselink, Margaret Vogelaar, and Mabel De Jong.