

Gail L. Parker, 89, New Sharon

Gail L. Parker, 89, a resident of New Sharon Nursing & Rehab Center for the past eight and one-half years, passed away on Sunday, October 28, 2007.



Gail Lorene Parker, daughter of Floyd Blaine and Bernice Smith Clendenon was born May 20, 1918 at her maternal grandparent's rural Eddyville home in Mahaska County. She attended Pleasant Ridge Country School, just up the road from her home, and later attended Oskaloosa High School. She married Herbert Parker on January 5, 1938, at the home of her grandparent's, Walter and Alice Smith, in Oskaloosa, Iowa. Herbert and Gail made their home together and raised their family on a farm four miles east of Bussey. Gail was a member of the Union Liberty Church in rural Bussey and had also attended the Independent Bible Church and the United Methodist Church in Bussey, after she and Herbert had retired and moved into Bussey. She was also involved in the Order of the Eastern Star for many years.

Gail loved her family and was dedicated to raising her three daughters, encouraging them in behaviour and appearance, and in faithful

church attendance. She was an excellent cook, and enjoyed growing a big vegetable garden and canning and freezing the results. She also loved her flowers; especially pink petunias, roses, and peonies. Her home was always nicely decorated in shades of pink, beige, and dusty rose. She also had a cherished collection of blue glass. Gail enjoyed feeding the birds, reading, and being outside with her husband. She will be remembered by many for her caring card ministry.

Gail's family includes her daughters: Sheryl Lynne (Loren) Carter of Sully, Iowa; Sherry Lane (Bob) Carter of Steamboat Springs, Colorado; and Jerelyn Lee Kinman of Eddyville, Iowa; nine grandchildren: Susan (Mark) Brouwer, Wes Carter, Chris (Lisa) Carter, Teresa (Shannon) Munday, Ken (Tammy) Carter, Ben (Lisa) Carter, Chad (Shelly) Spaur, Sarah Spaur and Quinn Kinman, and 16 great-grandchildren.

Besides her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Herbert, on October 21, 1994, and a brother, Russell Clendenon.

Visitation with the family present will be from 6 to 8 pm on Thursday, Nov. 1, at the Garland-Van Arkel-Langkamp Funeral Home in Oskaloosa. The funeral will be held at 10 am on Friday, Nov. 2, at the Bussey Methodist Church in Bussey. Burial will be at Pringle Cemetery east of Bussey.

DT 10/31/07