

Diamond Trail News, July 16, 2008

Obituary

Bertha Vande Krol, 82, of Sully

Bertha Heemsbergen was born on April 30, 1926 in Jasper County, Iowa. She was the youngest of three children born to Bastian and Kündertje (Vis) Heemsbergen. Bertha attended various country grade schools in Jasper County and completed her education after the 9th grade at Sully High School.



B. Vande Krol

She then worked for the grocery store in Lynnville, Iowa and the overall factory in Pella, Iowa. On February 25, 1947, Bertha was united in marriage with Doyle Vande Krol at Grinnell, Iowa. To this union two daughters were born: Shirley Joan and Gayle Diane. In 1960 Bertha started working as a clerk in the Sully Post Office. In 1975 she succeeded Ollie Wisgerhof as Postmaster. She retired from in December of 1989, after nearly 30 years of service to the United States Postal Service. After her retirement, Bertha and Doyle spent their winters in Apache Junction, Arizona from 1990 until 2003. They enjoyed the friendships they made and the time spent with many good friends during these years. Bertha endured severe and

chronic back pain which plagued her for many years. With Doyle's help she was able to remain in their home until she required more advanced care. Bertha passed away on July 8, 2008 at the Hospice of Pella Comfort House. She attained the age of 82 years, two months and eight days. Those who will cherish her memory are her husband of 61 years, Doyle Vande Krol and their two daughters, Shirley Vande Krol and Gayle Vande Krol. She also leaves her brother-in-law, Robert Vande Krol and his wife, Wanda of Searsboro, Iowa, nephew, Brian Heemsbergen and niece, Rita Gardner and her husband, Mike along with their sons, Matthew and Daniel. Bertha was the last surviving member of her original family. She was preceded in death by her parents, her brothers, Dick (Ruth) Heemsbergen and Richard (Reka) Heemsbergen, and her sister-in-law, Iva (John) Arkema (Joe) Harthoorn. Bertha enjoyed sewing, cross stitching, quilting and other crafts. She was a hard working woman whose busy hands are now at rest.

Funeral services were held Friday, July 11, 2008, at 10:30 a.m. at First Reformed Church in Sully, Iowa with committal service at the Sully Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family prefers memorials to the Hospice of Pella Comfort House.