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MR Helen L. Icenbice, 85

Long-time area teacher Helen Louise Icenbice, 85, of Deep River died Thursday morning, Aug. 27, 1998 at Grinnell Regional Medical Center in Grinnell.

Her funeral was Saturday morning, Aug. 29 at the Christian Church in Deep River. Cheri Doane of the Christian Church officiated.

Music was "Sweet By & By" and "Face to Face," sung by Carol Dale and Ellen Zimmerman, accompanied by pianist Evelyn Icenbice. The congregational hymn was "Oh, That Will Be Glory For Me."

Casket bearers were Kenneth Keller, LaVerne Doty, Todd Keller, Joe Keller, Ron Gilliland and Joe Icenbice.

She was buried in Golden Rod Cemetery in Deep River.

Helen was born Dec. 21, 1912 in Deep River to Nelson and Lenora (Haag) Keller. During her youth, she accepted Christ as her Savior and became a member of the Deep River Christian Church. There, she served as a Sunday School teacher, deaconess and pianist. She was also a summer Bible school teacher in both Deep River and Montezuma.

Following graduation from Deep River Public School in 1930, she attended Iowa State Teachers College in Cedar Falls for two years, receiving a diploma in kindergarten teaching. Later, after further education at the University of Colorado in Boulder and Coe College in Cedar Rapids, she received a lifetime teaching certificate.

On June 4, 1942, she was united in marriage with Vaughn Johnston Icenbice at the Christian Church in Lancaster, Mo.

She taught in Guernsey, Deep River and Montezuma for 39 1/2 years before retiring in 1977, due to her husband's failing health.

Her love of children made her career a center of her life.

Helen was a longtime member of the Deep River Christian Church, a past member of the Order of Eastern Star where she held the office of Ruth for several years and she was also a member of the American Legion Auxiliary.

In death, she was preceded by her parents, her husband, Vaughn on Dec. 18, 1985; two brothers, Wayne and Jack Keller; and two sisters, Jean Elliott and Kaye Bruns.

She is survived by a brother, Newell Keller of Deep River; a sister-in-law, Grace Keller of Ocala, Fla.; nieces, nephews and their families, other relatives, many friends and former students and their families.

Memorials may be made to the Deep River Volunteer Fire Department or the Deep River Christian Church.

Arrangements were by Watts Funeral Home of Montezuma.