

## Viola McDowell, 94

Viola McDowell, 94, of Montezuma, died Wednesday, Jan. 29, at the Montezuma Nursing and Rehabilitation Center at Montezuma.

Her funeral service was Saturday, Feb. 1, at Watts Funeral Home in Montezuma with the Rev. Dennis Dorsheimer officiating. Interment was at Jackson Township Cemetery in Montezuma.

Casket bearers were Ronald Arvidson, Brent Arvidson, Brad Arvidson, Rodney Arvidson, Curtis Ferguson and Scott Montgomery.

Viola was born July 21, 1908, on a farm northeast of Montezuma, the daughter of Benjamin and Gertrude (Peterson) Arvidson. On Dec. 11, 1941, she was united in marriage with Walter E. McDowell at Lancaster, Mo. To this union, a daughter, Sharon, was born. They were later divorced. She cared for elderly people until 1982. She lived in Montezuma until moving to Oskaloosa in 1975. In 1991, she moved to New Sharon and in 1994, moved to the Montezuma Nursing Home. She enjoyed the company of special friend Don Darland for several years. She was

a member of the Christian Church and she enjoyed the time spent taking care of her mother. She liked to read and visit with family and friends and, while in Oskaloosa, she enjoyed walks in the park.



Viola is survived by her daughter, Sharon Ferguson, of Montezuma; two grandchildren, Rhonda (& Scott) Montgomery and Curtis (& Robin)

Ferguson, all of New Sharon; one great-granddaughter, Ashley Moore; one step-great-grandson, Adam Montgomery; and other relatives and many friends.

She was preceded in death by six brothers, Carl, Harold, Donald, Emil, Elmer and Melvin Arvidson; and one sister, Ruth Ballard.

MR - 2/5/2003 - Walter E.