

Harriet McKee

Harriet McKee 79, of rural Montezuma died Jan. 2, 2000.

Her funeral was Jan. 6 at First Presbyterian Church in Montezuma with Rev. George M. Salnave of First Presbyterian officiating.

Congregational hymns accompanied by organist Kathleen Ramsey were, "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God," "Amazing Grace" and "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee."

Casket bearers were John Gorsuch, Robert Thomason, Lew Lundy, Lee Thompson, Forrest Gorsuch, Maynard Hutchinson, Brian Roorda and Donald McKee.

Interment was in Jackson Township Cemetery in Montezuma.

Mrs. McKee was born March 24, 1920 in Audubon County to Hans and Mathilda (Sorenson) Farstrup. She graduated from Exira High School, then attended Grandview College in Des Moines and Iowa State Teachers College in Cedar Falls, where she received a teaching certificate. Mrs. McKee taught country school for nine years.

On Aug. 18, 1946, she married Howard McKee at the Lutheran Church in Exira. The couple, who had four children, farmed east of Montezuma. In 1985, Mrs. McKee went back to college at William Penn in Oskaloosa and received a bachelor's degree in education. From 1969 until her retirement, she taught sixth grade at Montezuma Community Schools.

She also attended Drake University and the University of Northern Iowa.

She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Montezuma, Presbyterian Women and the Presbyterian Concern Class. She also belonged to the Ken Club and the K.Y.N. Club. She served her community in many ways, including eight years on the Montezuma School Board. She was a former church elder, a longtime Sunday School teacher and a weekly volunteer at the Presbyterian Family Center.

Mrs. McKee was preceded in death by her parents, two brothers, Ejnar Farstrup and Folmer Farstrup and two sisters, Olga Phelps and Esther Sears.

She is survived by her husband, Howard; two sons and their wives, Craig and Joan McKee of Arlington, Va. and Rodney and Roxann McKee of Montezuma; two daughters and their husbands, Elizabeth and Richard Gnida of Lincolnale, N.Y. and Helen and Bruce Alexander of Iowa City; nine grandchildren, Andrew, Tanya, Mary, Martha, Kyle, Devyn, Eryn, Tyler and Katurah; one great-grandchild, Louis; one brother, Arnold Farstrup of Exira; two sisters, Ingeborg Nygaard of Solvang, Calif. and Helen Hanley of Garden Grove, Calif.; other relatives and many friends.

Memorials may be directed to the Harriet McKee Educational Scholarship or First Presbyterian Church.

Arrangements were by Watts Funeral Home of Montezuma.

MR 1-12-2000

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