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July 27, 1998

Etna M. Spencer (CLARENCE)

Etna M. Spencer, 93, formerly of Gilman, died Friday, July 24, at Villa del Sol Health Center in Marshalltown.

Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Prairie View Cemetery, Gilman. There will be no public visitation. Pursel-Davis Funeral Home and Crematory is in charge of arrangements.

She was the daughter of George E. and Emily E. Green Stewart and was born June 5, 1905, in Gilman. She was raised and educated in Gilman, graduating from Gilman High School in the early 1920s. She attended the University of Iowa and Iowa State Teachers College in Cedar Falls.

She taught briefly before her marriage to Clarence W. Spencer March 19, 1927, in Marshalltown. She was a postal clerk at the Gilman Post Office for many years and eventually served as postmistress for several years before her retirement in 1970. She also was a 50-year member of the Gilman Order of Eastern Star.

Surviving are her daughter, Nancy Stoppels of Marion; two sons, Richard of Ellenton, Fla., and William of San Antonio, Texas; one sister, Alberta Coleman of Melbourne; three brothers, Kenneth Stewart of Marshalltown, George Stewart of Hempstead, Texas., and Robert Stewart of Gilman; 15 grandchildren; and 25 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband; one son, Merle; one daughter, Joanne; three sisters, Florence Failor, Louise Robertson and Doris Stewart; and five brothers, Emory, Harry, Jesse, Charles and Herbert Stewart.

A memorial fund in her name has been established with Camp Courageous in Monticello, or contributions may be made to the charity of the donor's choice.