

Lillian Marie Andersen, 89

May 13, 1912 – Jan. 30, 2002

AVOCA – Lillian Marie Andersen, daughter of Fred and Laura Christensen Johnson, was born May 13, 1912, on a farm northeast of Avoca. She attended country school and graduated from Avoca High School with the class of 1928, earning a normal training certificate. After graduation, she helped care for her father who had suffered a stroke in 1925.

Lillian married Ernest Andersen Feb. 28, 1930, at the Lutheran Parsonage in Avoca. They farmed south of Shelby until 1934, and then moved to the family farm northeast of Avoca, her birthplace. They were the parents of four children, Eleanor, Laura Ann, Marlin and Robert. They built a new home in Avoca and moved there in 1977. They had just celebrated 50 years of marriage before Ernest died June 16, 1980. Lillian was a charter member of the former English Lutheran Church and Trinity Lutheran Church, teaching Sunday school, singing in the choir and serving on the Altar Guild. She was a member of the Myrtue Memorial Hospital Auxiliary and served on the Board for six years. After a short stay at the Avoca Nursing and Rehab Center, she died Jan. 30, 2002, at age 89 years, eight months and 17 days.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Ernest; her daughter and son-in-law, Eleanor and Michael Quinn; and her brother, Harry Johnson. She is survived by her daughter, Laura Ann (Charlie) Allen; her sons, Marlin Andersen (Darlene) and Robert Andersen (Linda), all of Avoca; 12 grandchildren; 26 great grandchildren; three great great grandchildren and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Feb. 4, 2002, at Trinity Lutheran Church, Avoca, with Pastor Lou Hoger and Lay Assistant Wayne Paulsen officiating. Burial was in Graceland Cemetery, Avoca. Honorary casket bearers were Allen Wilke, Janet Dorsey, Wayne Allen, Denise Young, Amy Gleaves, Wade Andersen, Charlotte Allen, Randy Wilke, Barbara Goodner, Larry Allen, Julie Aust and Bobbi Andersen. Casket bearers were Clarence Harder, Ronald Davis, Laverne Miller, Lavern Botcher, Bob Andersen, Jim Troia, Don Hansen, Ernie Hogeland and Clinton Erickson. Knutson Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.