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Ruth Iwen, 89

March 1, 1914 - Dec. 17, 2003

PERSIA – Ruth A. Iwen was born March 1, 1914, in Shelby, to Wm. C. and Emma (Erickson) Peterson. She grew up on the family farm with her parents and sister, Elsie, and brother, Glenn. Ruth graduated from the Tennant High School in May of 1931.

Ruth married Art Iwen Feb. 22, 1938, the anniversary date of Art's parents and later the anniversary date of Art's brother, Roy, and wife, Dorothy. They became the parents of one daughter and three sons. They farmed near Persia until Art's death in 1975. Ruth has lived in Persia since that time. She was a longtime member of Trinity Lutheran Church and its Lutheran Women's Missionary League. She was a newspaper correspondent for the local newspapers for many years. She had resided at the Life Care Center in Omaha, since November of 2002. She died Dec. 17, 2003, at the Life Care Center in Omaha, NE, at age 89 years.

Ruth was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Art; sister, Elsie Kay; and brother, Glenn Peterson. Survivors include her sons, Duane (Linda); David (Alma), both of Omaha, Ne; John (Kay) of Bettendorf; daughters, Joyce Smith (Craig) of Minneapolis, MN; Shirley Iwen of Davenport; 12 grandchildren; 10 great grandchildren; sister-in-law, Dorothy Iwen of Persia; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Dec. 20, 2003, at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Persia, with Pastor David Kuhnle officiating. Burial was in the Shelby Cemetery. Honorary casket bearers were Brad Iwen, Todd Lehr, Rich McLain, Jason Iwen and Mike VonBehren. Casket bearers were Bill Iwen, Eric Sieh, Denny Iwen, Jeff Iwen, Ronny Kay and Gerald Beeskow. Logan Memorial Chapel Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.