

Maxine Maassen, 75

Oct. 26, 1929 - March 29, 2005

AVOCA — Hilma Maxine Watkins Maassen was born Oct. 26, 1929, in Keosauqua, one of three children born to Roy and Dorothy Pease Watkins. She attended school in Keosauqua, and graduated with the Bonaparte class of 1947. She then went on to Iowa State College at Ames, where she graduated in 1951. She moved to southwest Iowa in 1952 and began working as a County Extension Home Economist in Oakland.

Maxine met her husband, John, from Extension activities, and they were married Jan. 30, 1954. They moved to the Maassen family farm in 1968, where they raised their four sons, Dale, Paul, Gary and Alan. She was a homemaker. As a member of the Avoca Garden Club, she helped to beautify Avoca by being involved in tree and flower planting. Maxine was a member of several card clubs. She was a member of the United Church of Avoca and was involved with the women's fellowship. In 1981, John and Maxine moved into a home on Frost Avenue in Avoca. She died at the Avoca Nursing and Rehabilitation Center March 29, 2005, at age 75 years, five months and three days.

Maxine is preceded in death by her parents. She is survived by her husband, John of Avoca; her sons and daughters-in-law, Dale (Angie) Maassen of Hancock; Paul (Sharon) Maassen of Omaha, NE; Gary (Cathy) Maassen of Chicago, IL; and Alan (Kim) Maassen of Avoca; 11 grandchildren, Eric Maassen, Cory Maassen, Kristen Maassen, Angela Maassen, Matt Maassen, Erin Maassen, David Maassen, Joey Maassen, Emily Maassen, Carl Maassen and Kale Maassen; a brother, Jesse (Joyce) Watkins of Scottsdale, AZ; and sister, Jeanette (Robert) Vanderwater of Houston, TX; and other relatives.

Funeral services were held April 2, 2005, at the United Church of Avoca with Rev. Nancy Ross-Hullinger officiating. Burial was in the Graceland Cemetery. Casket bearers were Kristen Maassen, Erin Maassen, Emily Maassen, Carl Maassen, Angela Maassen, David Maassen, Eric Maassen, Matt Maassen, Joey Maassen, Cory Maassen and Kale Maassen. Knutson Family Chapel in charge of arrangements.