

Esther C. Neighbors, 81

Nov. 12, 1917 - April 9, 1999

AVOCA - Esther Caroline Neighbors was born Nov. 12, 1917, in Pleasant Township of Pottawattamie County, daughter of Ralph and Karolina Dethlefs Brown, and was the oldest of six children in the family.

She married George R. Neighbors Feb. 24, 1938, in Co. Bluffs. They were the parents of one son, Duane. They farmed in the Avoca and Adair areas until moving to Griswold. Esther was employed at the Union Carbide Battery Plant at Red Oak for over 33 years. She spent countless hours helping those who couldn't drive to make their doctor visits both locally and also taking them to Omaha and Co. Bluffs. In 1993, she received an award for her volunteerism. She was a member of the Cass County Hospital Auxiliary. Ray died Aug. 11, 1972. The past several months she has been a resident of the Avoca Nursing and Rehab Center in Avoca. This way she could be closer to several of her brothers and sisters. She died at the Jennie Edmundson Hospital in Co. Bluffs, April 9, 1999, at age 81 years, four months and 27 days.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband, George. She is survived by her son, Duane (Kimberly); one granddaughter, Kara Rodman, all living in Ft. Lauderdale, FL; five sisters and brothers, Ruth (Milton) Christensen; Wilbert Brown (Eleanor); Kenneth Brown, all living in Avoca; Dorothy (Mervin) Hidebrand of Hancock; Lawrence Brown (Velma) of Atlanta, GA; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held April 12, 1999, at the Knutson Funeral Home with Lay Assistant Wayne Paulsen officiating. Burial was in the Oak Hill Cemetery, Hancock. Casket bearers were Gary Brown, Dennis Hoffmann, Ron Mehsling, Greg Brown, David Hoffmann and Richard Brown. Knutson Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.