

## MayDelle Petersen, 88

April 4, 1922 - Oct. 27, 2010

**DES MOINES** — MayDelle Margaret Petersen, the daughter of Julius and Emma Lorenzen Ranninger was born in Manning on April 4, 1922. She attended school in Manning graduating from high school with the class of 1939. She then attended Buena Vista University in Storm Lake where she received Normal Training to become a school teacher. She then taught school in Iowa Township School No. One in Carroll County.

MayDelle met Charles Engelmann who was in the Army Air force and followed him to Wilmington, NC where they were married on May 28, 1943. Two daughters were born to this union, Virginia and Anita. Charles, who was stationed in over 17 states and 5 foreign countries earned the rank of Captain in the Air Force, so the family never had a real stationary place to live. Captain Engelmann was in charge of efficiency and retired from the Air Force after 21 years of service. The couple returned to the Midwest and made their home in Denison. MayDelle was a lifetime member of the Military Officers Auxiliary, the American Legion Auxiliary and the VFW Auxiliary. After Captain Engelmann died, MayDelle continued to live in Denison.

After her marriage to Eugene "Pete" Petersen on June 11, 1988, she lived in Shelby where "Pete" was the town policeman. In 1990, they returned to the Jacksonville area on the family farm. By this time they had become members of Bethlehem Lutheran Church. She was an avid reader, especially Bible Study, and enjoyed reading, playing cards, cooking, baking and cleaning her home. MayDelle died on October 27, 2010 at the Genesis Senior Living Center in Des Moines having attained the age of eighty-eight years, six months and twenty-three days.

In addition to her parents, MayDelle was preceded in death by her husbands and her sister Marion Joens and brother-in-law Gilmore Joens. Survivors include her daughters, Virginia Genzen of Des Moines and Anita Engelmann of Newnan, GA, four grandchildren, eleven great grandchildren, other relatives and many friends.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Ron Rasmussen at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, November 3, 2010 at Pauley Jones Funeral Home in Harlan. Interment was held at the Charter Oak Cemetery in Charter Oak with Hope Brown, Thomas Genzen, Rollin Joens, Louise Guiney, Myron Joens and Eric Genzen serving as casket bearers.



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