

Wilma Roberta Thiesen, 75

MANILLA - Wilma, daughter of Arthur and Mary Alice Ronfeldt Anderson, was born June 17, 1914 in Shelby County. After graduating from Irwin High School, she attended Simpson College for two years. She then taught primary school at Exira and Irwin before her marriage on June 14, 1941 to Ferdinand Henry Thiesen. Three daughters, Helen, Barbara and Phyllis were born to this union. They farmed near Manilla for 28 years, before moving to Manilla. Shortly before their move into town, she at age 50, resumed her education at Simpson College. After attending seven summers, she earned her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Education. While working toward her degree, she also taught school in Manilla. After 14 years of teaching she retired. She was a member of the United Methodist Church, the United Methodist Women, the American Association of University Women, the Crawford County Retired Teachers Association, the Tourist club, and she volunteered at the Manilla Manor.

She had knee replacement surgery in Oct. of 1989 after which her health began to fail. She was not able to leave the hospital and died at Jennie Edmundson Hospital in Co. Bluffs on Nov. 30, 1989 at age 75 years, 5 months and 13 days.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband on May 16, 1989. She is survived by three daughters, Helen Thiesen of Manilla; Barbara (Donovan) Ellis of Pierce, NE., and Phyllis (Mark) Harlow of Des Moines and by two grandsons.

Services were held Dec. 2, 1989 at United Methodist Church in Manilla. Burial was in Nishnabotna cemetery, Manilla with casketbearers Gary Keesling, Verne Cadwell, Daniel Hansen, Loren McKown, Garnet Sievertsen and Dennis Messenbrink.