

Esther Wendt, 94

May 17, 1905 – June 16, 1999

AVOCA – Esther Regina Wendt was born May 17, 1905, near Avoca, the fifth of seven children born to Albert and Regina Dietrich Wendt. She graduated from Avoca High School in 1923. She had "normal training" as part of her high school education and then taught in several country schools including Newtown and Fairview #8 for 25 years. She then went to work as a bookkeeper at the Avoca Creamery, from which she retired in the late 1960's. After her retirement she helped her brother, Delmar, with his produce business. She lived on the family farm with her parents until their death. She never married. She lived on the home place and kept house for her younger brother, Delmar. They later moved to an apartment in Avoca where she lived until 1995, when she moved to the Avoca Nursing and Rehab Center. She was a lifelong member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Avoca. She was active in the women's group and sang in the choir for many years. She was also active in the Elderberries Senior Citizen group as well as neighborhood card clubs. She died June 16, 1999, at the Avoca Nursing and Rehab Center at age 94 years and 29 days.

She was preceded in death by her parents; three brothers, Carl, Clarence and William; and by a sister, Gertrude Oldenburg. She is survived by her two brothers, Delmar Wendt of Avoca and Raymond Wendt of Minden; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held June 19, 1999, at the Trinity Lutheran Church, Avoca, with Pastor Paul Bengtson and Lay Assistant Wayne Paulsen officiating. Burial was in the Graceland Cemetery. Honorary casket bearers were Alan Knuth, Warren Freads, Willis Wendt and Sam Simpson. Casket bearers were Dean Oldenburg, Russell Knuth, Eugene Wendt, Clarence Wendt, Jr., Dennis Jacobsen and Robert Wendt. Knutson Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.