

Thursday, July 2, 2009

# OBITUARIES

## JULIA G. BURNHAM, 86

FOREST CITY - Julia G. Burnham, age 86, of Forest City, died Monday, June 1, 2009, at the Good Samaritan Care Center in Forest City.



Funeral service were held on Friday, June 5, 2009, at Bethany Lutheran Church in Thompson with Pastor Mark Decker officiating. Burial will be at Rose Hill Cemetery in Thompson. The Petersen Lund Funeral Home handled the arrangements.

Julia was born in rural Leland, IA on October 11, 1922, the daughter of Philip and Lydia (Siekmeier) Branstad. She graduated from Thompson High School and then attended Waldorf College for one year, followed by teaching country school.

After marrying Francis Burnham on November 27, 1943, she worked at the Lost Angeles Port of Embarkation for over a year until WWII was over and her husband was discharged from the U.S. Navy in 1945.

The couple resided in Marshalltown for 35 years. Her husband, Francis, before retiring, taught at Marshalltown High School for 29 years and a number of years he was in charge of adult education at Marshalltown Community College.

Julia was a working mother. She worked at J.C. Penney's and the Marshalltown Community School District for many years. She also was a Girl Scout Leader for a troop from 3rd grade through high school.

Julia was an outgoing person with respect and concern for others. She was active in many organizations such as Sons of Norway, Republican Women, Church, Winnebago Historical Society, Retired School Personnel, Genealogy Society, American Legion Auxiliary, and Evening Lions Club. Among her many interests was a passion for outdoor gardening, including pulling weeds and tending flowers all over town. She liked horses.

Julia is survived by her husband of over 65 years, Francis of Forest City; daughter, Kitra Burnham of Richwood, WV; son, Alan Burnham and wife, Mary, of Livermore, CA; brothers, Paul Branstad of Buffalo Center, Clifford (Grace) Branstad of Thompson, Donald (Verneil) Branstad of Minneapolis, MN and Glenn Branstad of Bensonville, IL; three grandchildren; two great-grandchildren, and many nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

Julia was preceded in death by her parents and sisters, Doris Lehman and Lorraine Branstad.