Ella Byal, 94, passed away at the Madrid Home in Madrid, IA, on April 18, 2005. Ella was born in Huxley, IA, to Ole and Lena Legvold. Married to Hugh D. Byal on November 4, 1935, Ella lived most of her life on the family farm in rural Mingo. She and Hugh owned and operated Byal Apple Orchards for more than 60 years.

Devoted wife, mother and grandmother, Ella is remembered for her love of music, Norwegian wit and zest for life. She was a member of Fjeldberg Lutheran Church in Huxley and also a member of the Martha Circle of the Mingo Methodist Church.

She is survived by her daughter, Sandra Freeland of Ankeny; a son, Wayne and daughter-in-law, Nancy of rural Mingo; grandchildren, Robyn and Nader Sarkhosh of Irvine, CA, David Freeland, Todd and Amy Freeland of Ankeny and Jason and Crystal Byal of Charleston, SC; and great-grandchildren, Shastina, Tatiana, Ariana and Skyler Sarkhosh, Jessica, Joshua and Jonah Freeland and Taylor Byal.

A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 23 at the Fjeldberg Lutheran Church in Huxley. A lunch at the church immediately follows. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Ella's name to Fjeldberg Lutheran Church in Huxley or to Union Chapel and Cemetery, c/o Russell Rippey, Mingo.

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