



## Online Obituaries

### OBITUARIES FROM PURSEL-DAVIS FUNERAL HOME MARSHALLTOWN, IOWA

(Source: [http://www.funeralquestions.com/obits/pursel-davis/memorial\\_index.asp](http://www.funeralquestions.com/obits/pursel-davis/memorial_index.asp))

#### **Irma Margaret Cooper**



Born: 9/28/1912

Died: 4/29/2002

Services will be held at: 3:00 P.M., Tuesday, May 07, 2002 at the First Congregational Church in Marshalltown with the Rev. Greg Ellcey officiating. INTERMENT will follow at the Riverside Cemetery.

Visitation times are: 4:00 to 9:00 P.M., Monday at the Pursel-Davis Funeral Home & Crematory where the family will greet friends from 4:00 to 6:00 P.M.

Irma Cooper, age 89, of 2825 River Park Drive, Columbus, Ohio, formerly of Marshalltown, died Monday, April 29, 2002, at Whetstone Gardens & Care Center, Columbus, Ohio. FUNERAL SERVICES will be held at 3:00 PM Tuesday, May 7, 2002, at First Congregational Church, with Rev. Gregory Ellcey of First Congregational Church, officiating. INTERMENT will follow the services at Riverside Cemetery,

Marshalltown, Iowa. Friends may call for VISITATION from 4:00 – 9:00 P.M. Monday at Pursel?Davis Funeral Home & Crematory, where the family will greet friends from 4:00 – 6:00 P.M. A memorial fund has been established in her name for the First Congregational Church, the American Institute of Musical Studies (AIMS), Vocal Arts Resource Network, or the Ohio State University School of Music.

Irma was born September 28, 1912, at Sturgis, South Dakota, the daughter of Harold M. and Edna Anderson Cooper. Raised and educated in the area of her birth, she was a graduate of the Marshalltown High School. In 1934, she received a Bachelor degree in Music Education from Grinnell College, and 1936, a Master of Music degree from the American Conservatory of Music in Chicago. Irma won many national singing competitions, including 1st place at the Chicagoland Music Festival in 1940 and 1st place at the New York Debut & Encore Competition. During her twelve-year singing career, she had received many leading roles in various European Opera Houses, and was a frequent adjudicator for national competitions for singers and master classes in the United States, Canada and Europe. She served as a Professor Emeritus in the School of Music at The Ohio State University, retiring in 1974. Her memberships include the First Congregational Church, Marshalltown, Iowa, a co-founder of the American Institute of Musical Studies (AIMS) in Dallas, Texas, past vice-president and life member of the Columbus Opera, founder of competition for Ohio Opera Singers, founding member of National Association of Teachers of Singing Foundation and member of the Black Hills Pioneers. Irma is survived by her two nephews: Stephen C. Cooper of Newport Beach, California and David C. Cooper of Savannah, Georgia, and a great-niece: Karen Cooper Cox of Colorado. She was preceded in death by her parents and brother, Clayton Cooper, in 1998