

IRMA EVANS PIPER, 86

Irma Evans Piper, 86, of Marshalltown, Iowa, died October 20th, 2008, at the Marshalltown Medical and Surgical Center.

A celebration of Irma's life was held Saturday, October 25th, at the



Pursel-Davis Funeral Home in Marshalltown. Irma was laid to rest beside her husband Myron "Mike" Piper at Riverside Cemetery.

Born, September 17, 1922, in Frederic, Monroe County, Iowa, she was the daughter of Phillip Watkins and Glessie Elizabeth Evans. She grew up on a farm close to Albia, Iowa, amongst a large family of sisters.

She attended Avery Junior High and graduated from Albia High School in 1940. Following high school, she taught in a rural one-room schoolhouse, then entered Iowa Success Business College and, upon graduation, took a job as a bookkeeper for the Ottumwa Production Credit Association. She married her husband, Myron "Mike" Piper on September 4, 1949 in Ottumwa, Iowa and moved to Marshalltown that year, where they began his life-long career at Fisher Controls.

Irma devoted most of her life to raising her three children, keeping them actively engaged in various little league, scouting, DeMolay, Rainbow, high school sport and musical activities. She also worked various jobs, such as at Donnelly's in Nevada, Iowa, the County Assessor's office, and in her later years, Western Manufacturing.

She loved music and was a lifelong pianist. She was an expert seamstress, wonderful baker, and loved the outdoors - particularly in the country orchards during the apple and berry picking seasons. She also was an avid golf and tennis player. She loved to travel and visit her children and grandchildren, and she loved to walk - whether it was on the ocean beach or the city streets - while traveling. She enjoyed her warm circle of friends in Marshalltown

who have been a tremendous support for her throughout the years - golf and tennis buddies, coffee companions, long-time business friends, and a group of great neighbors. In her later years, she spent much time reading.

She was a member of the Order of Eastern Star and a long-standing member of the American Legion Auxiliary. She was also, for many years, a very active member of Elmwood Country Club as well as the YWCA.

Irma was blessed with a large extended family - lots of sisters, sisters- and brothers-in-law, nieces and nephews, who, along with her own children and grandchildren, brought her a great deal of joy.

Irma is survived by her children, Robert (Barb) Piper of Aurora, Colorado, Eric (Jane) Piper of Westwood Hills, Kansas, and Jennie (Joao) Piper-Bichinho of St. Louis Park, Minnesota; her sisters, Rena Howard, Mildred Miller, and Polly McDaniel; five

grandchildren, Ryan (Kim), Mikki, Jay Benjamin, and Elizabeth Piper, Gabe Piper Bichinho, and great granddaughter, Kylie Rose Piper. Also surviving are brothers-in-law, Richard Brown, Jim (and Betty) Piper; sisters-in-law, Shirley, Jo Piper, Wanda (and Frank) Wilson.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; sisters, Winnie (and Dennis) Smith, Phyllis Brown, and infant daughter, Peggy. Also, brothers-in-law, E.F. "Mac" McDaniel, Raymond Howard, Orlo Miller, Chuck and Willis Piper, and sister-in-law Beverly Piper.

Memorials may be made to the American Red Cross or the American Legion Auxiliary, both in Marshalltown, in her honor.



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