

Marshall County (IA) SUN

MARTHA UTSINGER, 75

Martha Utsinger, 75, of Newton, and formerly of Marshalltown, died Tuesday, January 26th, 2010 at Newton Healthcare Center.



A celebration of Martha's life was held Saturday, January 30th, at the Mitchell Family Funeral Home, with Fr. Jim Miller of St. Mary's Catholic Church officiating. Memorials may be directed to Martha's family. She will be laid to rest in St. Mary's Cemetery at St. Clair, Michigan, at a later date. For condolences, please visit www.mitchellfh.com. The Mitchell Family Funeral Home is caring for Martha and her family, phone 641-844-1234.

Martha Ann Brown was born on June 30th, 1934, at Marysville, Michigan to parents John and Stella (Fike) Brown. Stella passed away during childbirth and Martha was adopted by David and Katie (Feenstra) Grasman. Martha lived in many places during her childhood due to her adopted father's work. She eventually settled in the Marshalltown and Newton areas. On August 22nd, 1952, Martha was united in marriage to Rex Strickland in Des Moines. They later divorced.

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Martha was employed as a bookkeeper at various businesses throughout her working life. She was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Marshalltown. Martha was talented at any kind of needle-work, including knitting and crocheting. She was a master puzzle builder, enjoyed bingo, and time with family and friends, especially her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Martha will be forever loved and missed by all who knew her, including her son, Jack (Diana) Strickland; daughters, Linda (Steve Drew) Daughtrey and Debbie Vanater, all of Marshalltown; her grandchildren, Jennifer (Doug) Taft, Christopher (Tina) Strickland, Shauna Mares, Jordan Strickland, Victor Daughtrey, and Brody Norton; 14 great-grandchildren; her sisters, Nancy Cousins of Derby, New

York, and Margie Harmer of Yale, Michigan; as well as many friends.

In death, Martha has rejoined her parents and several brothers and sisters.

**Mitchell Family
Funeral Home**

1209 Iowa Ave. West



844-1234

www.mitchellfh.com