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Helen Esther Wilcke



May 31, 1917-June 29, 2005  
07/01/2005

Helen Esther Wilcke, 88, of Swaledale, died peacefully Wednesday, June 29, at home. She donated her body to the Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology at the University of Iowa. A memorial service will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, July 2, at Swaledale United Methodist Church with the Rev. Bruce Wittern officiating. Inurnment will be at a later date.

Helen Esther Martin was born May 31, 1917, in Mondamin, the daughter of Floyd and Martha (Thomas) Martin. She married Walter W. Wilcke May 23, 1935, in Ida Grove; to this union four children were born, Walter D, Dorothy, Roger, and Sherry.

She lived most of her life in Iowa. After Walt retired in 1987, they enjoyed 16 years of travel, making their camper their home. She enjoyed camping, doing crafts, working in the garden, visiting with friends, sending people back in the game of Aggravation and, most of all, her family.

She is survived by her loving husband, Walter Wilcke of Swaledale; three children, Roger (Betty) Wilcke of Walhalla, N.D., Dorothy (Lonnie) Poland of Alamoso, Colo., and Sherry (Robert) Hopkins of Swaledale; one daughter-in-law, Kay Wilcke of Boone; two sisters, Arlene (Rusty) Ehrig of Meriden and Shirley Simon of Odebolt; nine grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; a host of relatives and many friends.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Floyd and Martha Martin; one son, Walter D. "Curly" Wilcke; two sisters, Erma Meyerdirck and Doris Richardson; one great-grandson, Wesley Poland, and one son-in-law, Marion Hennick.

Memorials may be directed to Helen E. Wilcke Memorial Fund.  
Ward Van Slyke Colonial Chapel is in charge of arrangements.