

arrangements.
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Irene Behrens, 102

March 7, 1902 - Jan. 27, 2005

AVOCA — Irene Marie Behrens was born March 7, 1902, in Dubuque, daughter of Henry T. and Margarette Frees Behrens. Irene had one brother, Herman, and three sisters, Elsie, Selma and Marie. Irene went on to train as a nurse. She spent 17 years working as a pediatric nurse in Kansas City, MO. As a nurse, she would also travel with families when they were on vacation and caring for their children. Irene moved to Omaha, NE, in 1944. When she came to Omaha, she worked for several Omaha hospitals, and also worked as a nurse in the Omaha Retired Teachers Building for 25 years. In 1969, she decided to move to Avoca. She became a member of Trinity Lutheran Church and a member of the Avoca Garden Club. In 1980, she decided to go to Iowa Western Community College in Council Bluffs to earn her General Educational Development Diploma or GED. She studied typing and other skills, and at 78 years old, she was the oldest student to earn a GED at the time. Irene died at Avoca Nursing and Rehabilitation on Jan. 27, 2005, at age 102 years, 10 months and 20 days.

Irene is preceded in death by her parents and her brother, Herman of Denver, CO; and her sisters, Elsie Plautz of Avoca, Selma Krisley of Kansas City, MO, and Marie Magnuson. She is survived by five nieces and nephews; 14 great-nieces and nephews; and 26 great-great-nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Jan. 31, 2005, at the Trinity Lutheran Church with Pastor Bernard Daiker officiating. Burial was in the Graceland Cemetery. Casket bearers were Richard Lugert, Plez Bradley, Scott Bradley, Marty Schuemann, Kenneth Woltmann and Christian Bradley. Knutson Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.