

New Advertiser
21 Oct 2005

Elsie Bonnesen, 94 ✓

Jan. 9, 1911 - Oct. 9, 2005

ELK HORN — Elsie Marit, daughter of John and Maren (Jensen) Leistad, was born Jan. 9, 1911, in Elk Horn, and grew up on a farm near Elk Horn. She attended country school near her home and graduated from Elk Horn High School in 1929.

May 6, 1931, Elsie married Carl Gunner Bonnesen at the Elk Horn Lutheran Church. They had a marriage lasting 73 years. They had one daughter, Patricia Ann. The family made their home in Elk Horn. Elsie was a homemaker. She was a lifelong member of the Elk Horn Lutheran Church where she was baptized and confirmed. She was active in the church as a financial secretary, volunteer in the Cradle Roll Department and member of the Women of the Church. She volunteered at the Danish Windmill and Salem Homes, where she read mail for the residents and performed many other duties. She also belonged to the Outlook Study Club for many years. She died Oct. 9, 2005, at Salem Lutheran Home at age 94 years.

Elsie was preceded in death by her husband, parents and seven siblings, Anna, Olga, William Alfred, Elna, Agnes and Norman. She is survived by her daughter, Patricia Ann Blake (Gerald) of Ankeny; two grandchildren, Todd Christensen (Jennipher) of Denver, CO and Maria Troster (Matthew) of Ankeny; two great-grandsons, Maxwell Carl and Samuel Tate Christensen of Denver, CO; a sister, Dagny Gude of Elk Horn; sisters-in-law, Arlene Leistad and Martha Bonnesen of Elk Horn; and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Oct. 13, 2005, at the Elk Horn Lutheran Church with Rev. Keith Andrew Menter officiating. Burial was in the Elk Horn Lutheran Cemetery. Casket bearers were Leroy Pedersen, Arnold Gude, Galan Johannsen, John Leistad, Richard Bonnesen and Dennis Andersen. Ohde Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.