

Viola Buthmann, 88

Oct. 28, 1914 - April 27, 2003

IRWIN – Viola Mae Buthmann, daughter of John and Hazel Hemminger Joachimsen, was born Oct. 28, 1914, on a farm between Manilla and Manning. She attended schools in Crawford and Shelby Counties.

Dec. 14, 1933, she married Otto Buthmann at the Methodist Parsonage in Harlan. Two children were born to this union, Marilyn and Merlin. In 1937, they moved to California and worked a variety of jobs. During World War II, Otto was employed by a defense operation. Viola and Otto moved with their family back to Iowa in 1944. They farmed for many years in the Audubon and Shelby County areas. In 1953, Viola opened Buthmann's Cafe in Irwin while Otto continued to farm. After retiring from farming in 1966, they moved to Irwin where Viola was employed by the Irwin School as a cook. In February of 1993, Viola became a resident of the Manilla Manor, then in 1997, moved to the Des Moines area. Otto died Oct. 7, 1999. She died April 27, 2003, at Mercy Hospice in Johnston, at age 88 years, five months and 30 days.

In addition to her parents and her husband, Otto, Viola was preceded in death by a brother, John Joachimsen; her sister, Gertrude Buthmann; and two grandsons, Gerald Corbitt and Gary Buthmann. Survivors include her children, Marilyn Corbitt of Des Moines; Merlin Buthmann (Marlene) of Harlan; five grandchildren, Robert (Linda) Corbitt, Angelia (Lloyd) Robbins, George (Robin) Buthmann, Marla (John Hassell) Rimington, Marcia Buthmann, seven great grandchildren, Laura, Thomas, Kayla, Devin, Allyssa, Wesley and Gabriel Otto; a sister, Jeri Morgan of Irwin; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held April 30, 2003, at Pauley Jones Funeral Home with Rev. Robert Kersten officiating. Burial was in the Oak Hill Cemetery in Irwin.

