

Joyce Cooper, 78

Dec. 5, 1928 - July 7, 2007

AVOCA – Joyce M. Cooper was born Dec. 5, 1928 in LeMars to Joseph and Mary (Mueller) Bohlke. She grew up in the LeMars, Remsen, and Oyens area. She graduated from LeMars High School in 1946. Following high school, she attended Business College in Sioux City.

Joyce married Don L. Cooper Aug. 27, 1952 in Oyens at St. Catherine's Catholic Church. After they were married, the couple resided in Shenandoah. While in Shenandoah, Joyce worked for the Iowa State Dept. of Transportation in the drivers licensing division and did seasonal work at Henry Fields Nursery. She was active in St. Mary's Catholic Church in Shenandoah and Avoca, as well as being a member of the Red Hat Society. For six years, Joyce was a resident at Avoca Nursing and Rehab Center, and moved to Colorado in 2006. She died July 7, 2007, at Westminster, CO, at age 78 years, 7 months and 2 days.

Joyce was preceded in death by her husband, Don L. Cooper; brother, Kenneth Bohlke; and granddaughter, Teressa Berndt. She is survived by her son, Craig Cooper (Jackie) of Thornton, CO; daughter, Laurie Berndt (Morris) of Avoca; seven grandchildren; a great-granddaughter; three brothers, Wayne Bohlke of Lesueur, MN; David Bohlke of Minneapolis, MN; and Glen Bohlke of Virginia Beach, VA; and other relatives.

Mass of Christian Burial was held July 14, 2007, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Avoca, with Fr. John Dorton officiating. Casket bearers were Bryan Berndt, Aaron Berndt, Stephen Berndt, Kyle Cooper, Mathew Bohlke, and Joe Bohlke. Honorary casket bearers were Dan Bohlke, Rob Bohlke, Maury Reavis, Pat Emge, Keith Meyer, Bill Ludwig, and Kenneth Mathis. Burial was at Graceland Cemetery. Hackett-Livingston Funeral Home in Shenandoah was in charge of arrangements.