

Helen Pattee, 80

June 2, 1921 - Oct. 4, 2001

AVOCA - Helen Mary Sisterman Pattee was born June 2, 1921, in Elsworth, MN, daughter of Charles and Mary Edd Sisterman, and was one of six children in the family. In 1939, she graduated from St. Paul High School. After graduation, she attended the University of Minnesota for one year. In 1943, Helen entered the Army. She was stationed at Camp Forest in Tennessee, where she worked at the Motor Pool as a dispatcher. She was also stationed at Fort Bragg in North Carolina, where she worked in the hospital.

She married Edward Henry Pattee Feb. 14, 1946, in St. Paul, MN. They farmed in the Avoca area from 1946 to 1980. In 1980, they built their present home in Avoca. She spent the last few years at the Avoca Nursing and Rehab Center where she died Oct. 4, 2001, at age 80.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Mary; her father, Charles; and her stepmother, Edith; and her two brothers, Charles and Robert. She is survived by her husband, Ed; her sons, Tom (Kathleen) of Avoca; Robert (Lynn) of Humbolt and Dan (Bobette) of Frenchtown, MT; her daughters, Nancy Pattee-McCuen of Omaha; Mary (Terry) Bertacini of Oakland and Julie (Todd) Karnes of Oakland; 15 grandchildren and four great grandsons; her brothers, Jack Sisterman of Minnesota; Bill Sisterman of St. Paul, MN; her sisters, Pat Kelly of Hudson, WI and Joan Compton of Bloomington, MN; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Oct. 6, 2001, at the St. Mary's Catholic Church, Avoca, with Father Frost officiating. Burial was in the Graceland Cemetery with military graveside rites conducted by the Avoca American Legion Post #227. Honorary casket bearers were Katherine Bertacini, Michael Bertacini, Matthew McCuen, Michael Pattee, Maggie Karns, Ellen McCuen, Andrew Pattee, Jana Pattee and Amy Bertacini. Casket bearers were Cassandra Karns, Jeremy Karns, Kari Pattee, William Pattee, Edward C. Pattee and Angie Pattee. Knutson Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.