

Vivian Petersen, 88

Sept. 4, 1914 - Oct. 24, 2002

DENISON – Vivian Syra Petersen was born Sept. 4, 1914, daughter of Quirin E. and Lena Schneider Goeser, in Westphalia, and received her education in the Westphalia Community School.

Feb. 25, 1937, she married Walter C. Petersen. The couple made their home in Arion and were the parents of four children. While her children were growing up, she worked as a custodian at the Arion Elementary School. Walter died in 1968, and Vivian moved to California for a short time, before moving to Minnesota, where she worked as a priest housekeeper for Father Thomas Ploof in Luverne and St. Charles, MN. After Father Ploof retired, she moved to Denison and made her home in the Eventide Senior Housing, until entering the Eventide Nursing Home in 1999. She died Oct. 24, 2002, at the Eventide Nursing Home in Denison.

Vivian was preceded in death by her parents; her husband and four brothers, Severne, Silvan, Eugene and Joseph Goeser in infancy. Survivors include two daughters, Norma Swanson of Denison and Patricia Hostetter of Pocahontas; two sons, Donald Petersen (Mary) of Kent, WA and Walter Petersen (Valerie) of Centralia, MO; 14 grandchildren; 33 great grandchildren; and one great great grandson; four sisters, Dorothy Weinhold of Kansas City, KS; Corrine Vills of Mazomanie, WI; Irma Goeser of Fort Dodge; Della Kenkel (Joe) of Johnston; one brother, Roman Goeser of Denison; and other relatives.

Mass of Christian Burial was held Oct. 30, 2002, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Dow City, with Father Richard Ball officiating. Burial was in the Dow City Cemetery. Honorary casket bearers were Father Edward Adams, Donavon Swanson, Eric Petersen, Max Lambert, Father Thomas Ploof, Keith Kaspersen and Joe Kenkel. Casket bearers were Dwight Beekman, Darren Swanson, Mike Akridge, Douglas Swanson, David Swanson and Tim Billings. Huebner Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.