

Grace Zea, 87

June 18, 1918 - June 29, 2005

BLACKDUCK, MN — Bernice Zea was born June 18, 1918, to William Milford and Hattie Avis (Speck) Kauffman in Ames. She attended school in Ames and graduated from high school there.

Bernice married (Robert) Dale Zea Jan. 3, 1937, in Ames, and they celebrated over 66 years of marriage together. She worked at several places in Denison during their marriage, Crawford County Memorial Hospital, Credit Bureau, Crawford County Extension Service, and Denison Broadcasting Company (a radio station). She also served many years as a parks commissioner in Denison. She was a member of the Baptist Church and was very active in all church activities, including playing piano and organ for the church, and supplying flower arrangements for church services. In 1977, Bernice and her husband moved to Blackduck, MN, where they became members of the Presbyterian Church. Here too she became very active in church activities, the women's group there, playing the organ for church services, and arranging the flowers at the church. She was in charge of the senior noon meals (Headwaters Nutrition Project) for many years. She was an honorary member of the Tri Sigma GFWC (25 years) and also attended the Red Hat Ladies lunches at the different restaurants. She died June 29, 2005, at Northern Pines Good Samaritan Center in Blackduck, MN.

Bernice was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; one son, Dennis Paul Zea; two brothers; and one grandson. She is survived by four children, Larry Zea (Patricia) of Blackduck, MN; James Zea (Judy) of Harlan; Marlin Zea of Truth or Consequences, NM; Donna (James) Roths of Sumner, WA; one brother, George Harold Kauffman of San Diego, CA; three sisters, Gladys (William) Porter of Ankeny; Ruth Ansenon of Lawn, TX; Vera (Bob) Swoboda of Runnells; one-sister-in-law, Sarah Kauffman of Arkansas; 10 grandchildren; 9 great-grandchildren; and 1 great-great-grandchild.

Funeral services were held at July 9, 2005, at the First Presbyterian Church in Blackduck, MN, with the Rev. Donald Bump officiating. A local service was held in Denison July 11, 2005, at the Huebner Funeral Home with burial in the Oakland Cemetery in Denison, Snustad Funeral Home in Blackduck, MN and Huebner Funeral Home in Denison in charge of arrangements.