

**Velma Fell, 89**

April 27, 1924 - Feb. 1, 2014

**WALNUT** — Velma Lucille Fell, only daughter of Harry and Jo (Brindley) McDermott, was born on April 27, 1924 on a farm northeast of Walnut. After the birth of her brother Robert, the family moved to a farm west of Walnut. Velma graduated from Walnut Community High School in 1941. After graduating, Velma moved to Des Moines where she worked as a tray carrier at Bishop's Cafeteria and as a secretary for Look magazine.

Velma was united in marriage to Tommy Fell in Kansas City, MO on October 17, 1944 while Tommy was on leave from the Merchant Marines. Upon Tommy's discharge, the couple lived in a small home on Velma's parents' farm, northwest of Atlantic and eventually settled in Walnut to raise their family. For the first years of her marriage to Tommy, Velma was a homemaker. Once her children were all in school, she took a job as a cook in the cafeteria at Walnut Community Schools and worked there until her retirement. Velma was a talented seamstress and, after retiring, spent much of her time sewing, crocheting and embroidering. All of her grandchildren, many nieces, nephews and friends have been the recipients of several wonderful afghans and sets of beautifully embroidered tea towels over the years. Velma also enjoyed dancing and she and Tommy won several awards for dancing the waltz. Numerous dinners at The Gardens in Walnut were ended with the jukebox being played, the dance floor powder being spread and Velma and Tommy waltzing as the other patrons enjoyed the show. On February 1, 2014, Velma passed away at the Avoca Nursing & Rehab Center in Avoca.

In addition to her parents, Velma was preceded in death by her husband Tommy in 2010; her brothers: Clarence, Austin and his wife Marge, Robert, Herbert and Richard; granddaughter Shari Fell; and son-in-law Dale Dyson. Velma is survived by her daughter Jane Dyson of Macedonia; her sons: Jeff Fell and his wife Peggy of Deer Creek, MN; Bill Fell and his wife Laurie of Avoca; and Brett Fell of Sioux City; ten grandchildren; three step-grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; her sisters-in-law Juanita McDermott, Shirley McDermott, Joanne McDermott and Kay McDermott; numerous nieces and nephews; and a host of other relatives and friends.

The 10:30 a.m. funeral service was officiated by Steve Kiesel on Friday, February 7, 2014 at First Presbyterian Church in Walnut. Music was provided by Connie Jensen and Mary Kay Ager. Serving as casket bearers were Dave McDermott, Dan Fell, Dallas McDermott, Jim McDermott, Steve McDermott, and Todd McDermott. Interment was held at the Layton Township Cemetery in Walnut.



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