

## Florence E. (Betty) Sanders, 93

Feb. 4, 1925 - March 15, 2018



**COUNCIL BLUFFS** – Florence E. (Betty) Sanders was born on February 4, 1925 in Centerville, to Leslie and True Jerome. She graduated from Centerville High School in 1943 and, on May 30 of that year, was united in marriage to Gene Arthur Sanders in Grand Island, NE. Betty became a "war bride" and, while her husband served in the Navy, she faithfully served her country at home in California and Iowa. Upon Gene's return from the war, Betty encouraged and supported him and their growing family while Gene completed his education.

As the spouse of a lifelong educator, Betty followed Gene to new and different towns as their careers and family grew. They lived and raised their children in Promise City, Elk Horn and Council Bluffs. After their children had grown, Betty went back to school and received her LPN certification from Iowa Western Community College. Thereafter, Betty was employed as a nurse for Jennie Edmundson Hospital for 15 years. Betty found her career to be very rewarding as she greatly enjoyed providing health care and emotional support to her patients. During this time of her life, Betty developed a keen interest in her family roots and genealogy and, through these interests, became a founding member of the newly formed Omaha Genealogy Society. Over the next 20 years, Betty and Gene traveled and researched the roots of their families.

Betty had a passion for gardening and her flower and vegetable gardens were the envy of the neighborhood. Her cooking and sewing skills were developed in grade school and perfected throughout her life. No one ever set a more beautiful dining table or enjoyed entertaining dinner guests more than Betty. She was known to her family as the person who would always step in to help others in need, be they friends or strangers.

Betty and Gene were married for 70 years until Gene's passing in 2013.

Betty passed away on March 15, 2018.

In addition to her beloved husband, Betty was preceded in death by her parents; her son, Gene Edward; and her brother and his wife, Bill and Delores (Dodie) Jerome.

Betty is survived by her daughters, Jerome (Jerre) and her husband Mark Hunter of Carter Lake; Sherry Davis and James Harvey of Port Townsend, WA; Susanne and her husband Roy Bohn of Milano, TX; and Leslie and her husband Kevin Burr of Carter Lake. Betty has seven grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren. Also surviving is Betty's brother Lloyd Jerome and his wife Barbara of Council Bluffs and many wonderful nieces and nephews. All are grateful for having shared Betty's life.

Visitation with the family was held Monday, March 20 from 6-8 p.m. at Cutler-O'Neill-Meyer-Woodring Bayliss Park Chapel. Memorial service was held Tuesday at 11 a.m. at the funeral home, with Rev. Will Reger presiding. A luncheon followed the service in the Cutler-O'Neill Community Room. Private family interment.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials be directed to the Micah House.

**Cutler-O'Neill**  
**MEYER-WOODRING**  
Funeral Homes & Crematory

Bayliss Park Chapel  
Council Bluffs, IA  
712-322-7779