

## Velma Struve, 87

Feb. 17, 1918 - March 30, 2005

**IRWIN** — Velma Maxine, daughter of John and Eliza Leona (Vannatta) Datwyler, was born Feb. 17, 1918, at home in East Peru. As a teenager, she was actively involved in 4-H Club, receiving numerous awards and honors. Velma graduated from Peru High School in 1935, and then continued to live at home and help on the family farm.

Nov. 2, 1941, Velma married Ralph Struve at the Church of Christ in Winterset. The couple's early married years were spent in the Manning area. Velma was baptized and confirmed at Zion Lutheran Church in Manning. April 15, 1943. In 1958, they moved to Blairsburg to further Ralph's career as an Angus cattle herdsman. The family returned to the Manilla area in 1965. In 1979, Ralph retired and he and Velma built their new home in Irwin. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary together in 1991. Ralph died May 20, 2000. Velma continued to live in their home up until her death. She was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Manilla where she was a faithful helper in the kitchen. She was active in the Priscilla Guild at Trinity, Helping Hands Club, and the Library Club in Irwin. After having a stroke on Good Friday, Velma entered Myrtue Memorial Hospital. She died there less than a week later March 30, 2005, at age 87 years, one month and 13 days.

Preceding Velma in death are her parents; husband, Ralph; and six siblings, Edna Wolverton, Carl Datwyler, Laura Clague, Wilson Datwyler, Glenn Datwyler (in infancy) and Irene Spencer. She is survived by three children, Glenda (Clarence) Baker of Sylvester, GA; Galen Struve (Elaine) of Blue Springs, MO; and Janene (Pat) Barry of Irwin; seven grandchildren, Brian Baker (Lynn); Brenda (Karl) Meyer; Dana (Shawn) Hill; Lynn Barry (Bobbie Jo); Kurt Barry; Kelli (Jason) Fineran; and Megan Barry and special friend, Ben Meyer; 10 great-grandchildren, Nicholas Carazo; Colton Meyer; Jacob and Corey Baker; Shayla and Emily Hill; Courtney, Dillon, Kira and Riley Barry; sisters-in-law, Fern Jensen of Manning and Lois Struve of Manning; brother-in-law, Sam Doane of Davenport; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held April 2, 2005, at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Manilla, with Rev. David Sewing of Zion Lutheran Church in Denison officiating. Burial was in the Manning Cemetery. Honorary casket bearers were Brenda and Karl Meyer, Kelli Fineran, Megan Barry, Dana and Shawn Hill, Lynn Baker and Bobbie Jo Barry. Casket bearers were Lynn Barry, Brian Baker, Jason Fineran, Kurt Barry, Ben Meyer and Curt Struve. Ohde Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.