

Esther Buch, age 90, of Newell, Iowa died Sunday, May 28, 2006 at the Newell Good Samaritan Center in Newell, Iowa.

Esther Martina Jensen was born in Sac County, Iowa on October 10, 1915 to Miller and Hedvig (Jensen) Jensen. Her parents were both born in Denmark, so Esther and her only sister, Beulah, were the first generation in her family to claim American citizenship by birth. She was baptized at Nain Lutheran Church in Newell and later was confirmed in the same church. Esther received her education and graduated from the Newell High School. She went on to attend what is now known as the University of Northern Iowa to earn her teaching certificate and then taught school for five years.

On May 23, 1939, Esther was united in marriage with Albert Christian Buch, the youngest son of Nels and Anna Buch, at Nain Lutheran in Newell. The couple was blessed with three sons: Allan Christian, Ronald Miller and James Raymond. Esther and Albert farmed and lived on their land for 50 years before they retired and moved into Newell. In 1989, they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Four years later, in 1993, Albert passed on.

Esther was a loving wife and a devoted mother who treasured the time she spent with her family. She was a lifetime, faithful member of Nain Lutheran Church in Newell, where she taught Sunday School for several years, served as Sunday School Superintendent and was a member of the Nain Lutheran Church Women. Esther was a member of the Providence Township School P.T.A. She belonged to the Providence Rural Study Club, and was a past chairperson of that group. She was also a member of Buena Vista County Farm Bureau Women and the Danish Sisterhood.

After teaching school and raising a family, Esther embarked on yet another career as a nurses aid at what was then the Buena Vista County Hospital in Storm Lake. Esther also did volunteer work at the hospital—most often taking the book cart around to the many patients to see if she could find something for them to read during their stay in the hospital. She was awarded a 100-hour pin for her volunteer work at the hospital.

Esther will be remembered for her love of family, her pride in her Danish heritage, her faithful service to her Lord, and her kind and caring spirit. She will be missed daily by those who knew and loved her.

Left to cherish her memory are her sons: Allan and his wife Sally Buch; Ron and his wife Annell Buch; and James and his wife Sandy Buch; her grandchildren: Greg Buch, Aaron Buch, Jason Buch, Kristin Buch, Nathan Buch, Matthew Buch, Hannah Buch, Bill, Steve, Bob, and Laura Bonaguidi, Wendy and Tom Ward; extended family and friends.

Esther was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Albert; and her only sister, Beulah Meinert and her husband Ray Meinert.



In Loving Memory



Esther Martina Buch

1915  2006



I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free
I'm following the path God laid for me.
I took His hand when I heard Him call
I turned my back and left it all.

I could not stay another day
To laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way.
I've found that peace at the close of day.

If my parting has left a void
Then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss.

Oh yes, these things I too will miss.
Be not burdened with times of sorrow.
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.

My life's been full, I savored much,
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief.
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your heart and share with me.
God wanted me now, He set me free.

— author unknown



We wish to express our gratitude for the kindness evidenced in thought and deed, and for your attendance at this service. You are invited for lunch and a time of fellowship at the church immediately following the burial.

IN MEMORY OF

Esther Buch

October 10, 1915 — May 28, 2006



FUNERAL SERVICE
Wednesday, May 31, 2006 at 11:00 a.m.
Nain Lutheran Church
Newell, Iowa

CLERGY
Reverend Barb Hansen

ORGANIST
Carol Hansen

CONGREGATIONAL HYMNS
"Children of the Heavenly Father"
"Beautiful Savior"
"How Great Thou Art"

HONORARY CASKETBEARERS
Arnold Rasmussen

CASKETBEARERS
Nile Buch—Arnold Grau
Don Hansen—Rod Rasmussen
Willis Ripke—Steve White

INTERMENT
Newell Cemetery
Newell, Iowa



Arrangements by
FRATZKE & JENSEN FUNERAL HOMES
www.fratzkejensen.com
Newell • Storm Lake • Schaller



The Buch Family