

Celebrating A Special Life

Dorothy Benson

May 13, 1921  May 26, 2008

Funeral Service

Saturday, May 31, 2008 at 10:30 a.m.

United Methodist Church — Marathon, Iowa

Clergy

Reverend David Schumann

Eulogist

Melissa Harris

Readers

Dorothy's Grandchildren

Special Music

Nita McLaughlin, Organist

Kevin Lind, Soloist

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

"On Eagle's Wings"

Congregational Singing

"Children Of The Heavenly Father"

"How Great Thou Art"

Casket Bearers

Byron Webster, Daniel Webster, Matthew Webster
James Benson, Jr., Lucas Benson, Christopher Benson


Interment

Poland Township Cemetery — Marathon, Iowa


Arrangements by

FRATZKE & JENSEN FUNERAL HOMES


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 Dorothy Alice Benson, age 87, of Albuquerque, New Mexico and formerly of Marathon, Iowa, died on Monday, May 26, 2008 in Mesa, Arizona.


Dorothy was born in Odebolt, Iowa on May 13, 1921, the daughter of Russell and Bertha Krusenstjerna. She was baptized and confirmed in the Odebolt Presbyterian Church. Dorothy attended grade school in Odebolt and graduated from high school in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. She received her teaching certification from Iowa State Teachers' College in Cedar Falls, Iowa, which is now the University of Northern Iowa. Dorothy then taught fourth grade in Marathon. While teaching, Dorothy met Delford Benson, and they were united in marriage on April 23, 1943.

Active in Eastern Star, Tuesday Study Club, 4-H, and the Methodist Church, where she taught Sunday school for many years, Dorothy enriched the Marathon community until the Bensons moved to Albuquerque in 1978. She helped develop the Vineyard Community in Albuquerque and was also active in Chapter X of PEO, Ada Chapter of Eastern Star, Sunbonnet Shop, and First Presbyterian Church. Dorothy was a tireless volunteer for many worthwhile causes her entire life. In addition to traveling extensively throughout the world, Dorothy and Delford enjoyed the last ten winters at Leisure World in Mesa, Arizona.

Dorothy is survived by her husband, Delford; three children: Kathie (Roy) Leeper and Kirk (Lynn Rogers) Benson of Albuquerque, and Jim (Terry) Benson of Marathon; her brother, Jack (Phyllis) Krusenstjerna of Odebolt; 10 grandchildren: Byron (Lisa) Webster, Daniel (Fabiola) Webster, Matthew (Rainey) Webster, Kirstin Webster, James Benson, Jr., Jennifer (Dennis) Bussey, Melissa (Tim) Harris, Lucas Benson, Christopher Benson, Kali Benson; 11 great-grandchildren; extended family and many friends.

Dorothy was preceded in death by her parents. 

*Memorials in Dorothy's honor may be directed to
the United Methodist Church in Marathon.*

 We would like to express our sincere thanks for all you have done to comfort and encourage our family. Please join us for a time of food and fellowship in the church fellowship hall immediately following the interment.

 *Dorothy's Family*

In Loving Memory



Dorothy Benson

1921  2008

..... *May unto May*

In the spring of the year, nineteen twenty and one
The Lord must have smiled when he saw what he'd done.

He blessed all the earth on the thirteenth of May,
When He sent down a gift, little Dorothy K.

For Russell and Bertha, He'd answered a prayer,
By placing this beautiful child in their care.

The parents rejoiced and at once were beguiled..
By the grace and the beauty they saw in their child.

"She's perfect", said Bertha, "and God grant that we
May help her become all the things she should be."

"I hope that whatever she seeks, she will find,
But mostly I pray she will always be kind."

"I ask that her portion and measure of fame,
Will flow from the goodness that calls her by name."

Then Russell stepped back and he looked far away.
"Yes, she's a real beauty", was all he could say.

But then to himself he thought, "Oh, what I'd give..
To see just a glimpse of the life she will live."

"The course of her life is to us an unknown,
And we will not see it until she is grown."

"If only I knew, if I just could be sure..
That life will be kind and be gentle with her."

"But now I must wonder what fate has in store
For Dorothy, my princess, this child I adore."



"Will she be a teacher.. will she write a song?
Will she paint a picture.. will her life be long?"

"Will she like to laugh.. will she sing, will she dance?
Will she know the joy of a perfect romance?"

"Will she in a cottage or palace reside?
And who will she choose to have there by her side?"

While Russell was lost in that brief reverie
An angel came near and said, "Listen to me..."

"Our life is a mystery, it must unfold
And what it will bring us, we never are told"

"We hope and we love, we have faith and we trust.
That's all we can do and yet do it we must."

"But look at your daughter and see her in face
That Dorothy possesses a singular grace."

"A grace that will keep her each day and each night..
A crown, as her hair turns from black into white."

The angel then said, "As I leave you I say,
Go tell Dorothy's mother to watch and to pray,"

"And years from this moment I think she will find..
That Dorothy has ever been gentle and kind."

Then— just like the angel, the years flew away
One after another, from May unto May

It's now eighty years since that day in the spring
When a mother gave thanks and she prayed for one thing.

And now in the year of two thousand and one
The Lord must still smile when He sees what he's done!

Written by TLB for Dorothy's 80th Birthday