

Garnett F. Swenson, age 92, of Storm Lake, and formerly of Strawberry Point, Iowa, died Friday, January 4, 2008 at the Buena Vista Regional Medical Center in Storm Lake.



Garnett was born on June 13, 1915 at Fremont, Nebraska, the daughter of Marion and Ida Crain. She graduated from the Stewartville, Missouri, High School. Following graduation, she worked in St. Joseph, Missouri and later in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

While living in Minneapolis, she met Alfred. They were married on June 8, 1940 in St. Joseph, Missouri. Their union was blessed with three children: Tania, Gregory and Gary.

The couple moved to Strawberry Point, Iowa and established a Western Auto Store. They later owned an International Implement Dealership in Strawberry Point and after selling the business, began farming. In 1961, Alfred and Garnett moved to Storm Lake, Iowa, where they owned and operated a Dairy Queen. They returned to farm in Strawberry Point in 1968. Garnett worked with her husband in all their business endeavors. Alfred and Garnett retired in 1978. They wintered in Arizona for 18 years until health forced them to remain in Iowa. They moved back to Storm Lake in 1994.



Garnett became a member of Emanuel Lutheran Church in Strawberry Point when the couple moved there, following their marriage. After moving to Storm Lake, Garnett became a faithful member of Grace Lutheran Church. She was a charter member of the Strawberry Point Lioness Club, member of Martha Circle and Friendly Neighbors Club. Gar-



nett's first love was spending time with and doing things for her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She loved to bake, quilt, and do crafts and handiwork of all kinds. She was very active and learned how to swim after retirement. She also learned how to golf at age 70, and enjoyed playing with friends.



Al and Garnett also enjoyed traveling after their retirement.

Left to cherish her memory are her children: Tania (Dennis) Gutz of Newell, Iowa; Greg (Janet) Swenson of Chesapeake, Virginia; and Gary (Sheila) Swenson of Fairfax Station, Virginia; her grandchildren: Jennifer (John) Hildman of Sergeant Bluff, Iowa; John (Dianna) Swenson of Virginia Beach, Virginia; and



Chad (Carolyn) Swenson of Alexandria, Virginia; two great grandchildren: Collin Swenson and Kelsey Hildman; many other cherished relatives and friends.

Garnett was preceded in death by her husband, Alfred; her parents, Marion and Ida Crain; and three brothers: Keith, Carl and Covell.

Celebrating *A Special Life*



Garnett F. Swenson

1915  2008

*W*e wish to express our gratitude for the kindness evidenced in thought and deed, and for your attendance at this service. Please join us for brunch and a time of fellowship at the church immediately after the service.



The Swenson Family

*Mothers Never
Really Die...*

Death beckoned her with outstretched hand
And whispered softly of "An Unknown Land."

But she was not afraid to go
For though the path she did not know,
She took Death's hand without a fear,
For He who safely brought her here
Had told her He would lead the way
Into eternity's bright day.

And so she did not go alone
Into the "Valley That's Unknown;"
She gently took Death by the hand
And journeyed to "The Promised Land."
And there, with step so light and gay,
She polishes the sun by day
And lights the stars that shine at night
And keeps the moonbeams silvery bright.

For mothers never really die,
They just "Keep House Up In The Sky."
And in the heavenly home above
They wait to "welcome" those they love.

— author unknown

IN MEMORY OF
Garnett F. Swenson

June 13, 1915  January 4, 2008

FUNERAL SERVICE
Tuesday, January 8, 2008 at 9:00 a.m.
Grace Lutheran Church
Storm Lake, Iowa

CLERGY
Reverend Steve Schulz

ORGANIST
Scott Schuelke

SOLOIST
Pastor Stephen Kieser
"The Lord's Prayer"

CONGREGATIONAL SINGING
"Amazing Grace"
"Old Rugged Cross"
"What A Friend We Have In Jesus"

BEARERS
Greg Swenson, Gary Swenson, John Hildman
Gene Lyster, Alan Bowles, Dennis Gutz

INTERMENT
3:00 p.m.
Strawberry Point Cemetery
Strawberry Point, Iowa



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

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