



Clela C. Miller

February 13, 1918 - January 23, 2017

Clela C. Miller, age 98, of Storm Lake, Iowa formerly of Early, Iowa died Monday, January 23, 2017 at Buena Vista Regional Medical Center in Storm Lake.

Memorial services will be held Saturday, February 4, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Early. Burial will follow in the church cemetery. Visitation will take place one hour prior to the service at the church. A memorial fund in Clela's name has been established. The Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Storm Lake is in charge of the arrangements.

Clela Catherine Shellenberger was born February 13, 1918 in Nemaha, Iowa, the daughter of William and Loretta (Smith) Shellenberger.

Clela attended school at Sacred Heart Catholic School where she graduated in 1935. Clela continued her education at Mt. Mercy Junior College where she earned a certificate in education in 1937. Shortly after, she began teaching country school in the Early area.

On January 8, 1940, Clela was united in marriage to Herman Merten, Jr. in Early. Together, they were blessed with six children: William, Richard, Jean, Thomas, Rosemary, and Kathleen.

Clela was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Early where she was

active in the Catholic Daughters of America and Ladies Guild.

She also participated in the Camera Club in Storm Lake. Clela enjoyed gardening, traveling, playing cards, and dancing. She will be remembered as a loving and faithful wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, sister, and friend to many. Clela will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her.

Those left to cherish her memory include her children: William (Joleen) Merten of Storm Lake, Iowa; Richard (Elizabeth) Merten of Storm Lake, Iowa; Jean (John) Owen of Storm Lake, Iowa; Rosemary (Sal) Zoucha of Bellevue, Nebraska; Kathy (Tom) Bumgardner of La Vista, Nebraska; daughter-in-law, Susan Merten of Apache Junction, Arizona; seventeen grandchildren: Paul, Donna, David, Kevin, Lisa, Beth, John, Amy, Colleen, Deena, Eric, Ben, Greg, Mark, Forrest, Angela, Troy; 27 great grandchildren; sisters: Rose Evelyn Elbert of Mankato, Minnesota; Paula Quinn of Minnetonka, Minnesota; brother-in-law, Ralph Scott of Smithville, Texas; extended family and friends.

Clela was preceded in death by her parents; three husbands, Herman Merten, Jr., Joseph Dinges, Vernon Miller; son, Thomas Merten; sisters: Marian (Joseph) Tallman, Marie (Newell) Wallisch, Winifred (Bob) Gray, Helen (Clem) Elbert, Joan (Jack) Fleming, Clarice Scott; brother, Robert (Dorothy) Shellenberger; brothers-in-law, Archie Elbert and Harold Quinn.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 4. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church --Early, Iowa
501 Church Street
Early, IA 50535
<http://www.nemahaweb.com/sacredheart/>

Memorial Service

FEB 4. 11:00 AM (CT)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church --Early, Iowa
501 Church Street
Early, IA 50535
<http://www.nemahaweb.com/sacredheart/>

Interment

FEB 4 (CT)

Sacred Heart Catholic Cemetery -- Early, Iowa
Church St.
Early, IA 50535

Tribute Wall

GS

“ Gary & Cheri Stowe lit a candle in memory of Clela C. Miller



Gary & Cheri Stowe - February 03, 2017 at 05:58 PM

GA

RIP Clela. We will miss you. Sending our love and prayers to the family.

Gary - February 03, 2017 at 06:00 PM

DJ

“ Thank you so much for sharing Clela with us at the Good Samaritan Center in Newell, we loved have her here with us. May God grant you peace and understanding at this difficult time.

Diane Johnson - February 03, 2017 at 12:27 PM

FH

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Homes - February 02, 2017 at 02:43 PM



“ *Multicolor Bright Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of Clela C. Miller.*



February 01, 2017 at 03:24 PM



“ *Bob & Glenda Von Arb; Cory, Kathryn, Rayna & Ryker purchased the Classic Sympathy Dish Garden for the family of Clela C. Miller.*



Bob & Glenda Von Arb; Cory, Kathryn, Rayna & Ryker -
February 01, 2017 at 09:16 AM



“ *Shirley--- - caregiver at Otsego Clela was such a beautiful lady as well as her children I was so ever blessed to be part of sharing their mother with the crew at Otsego everyone loved her I never ever heard an unkind word she was an angel of God. .God bless you Clela and give your family strength for days ahead but...just thjnk of all the memories you can always go to for comfort. sincerely*



shirleystauter - January 31, 2017 at 08:19 PM



“ *Deepest Sympathy to Clela's family from the Betty Dahm Family*

Betty J Dahm - January 31, 2017 at 12:29 PM

LM

“ *My sincere sympathy goes out to Clela's children and grandchildren.*

Linda Miller - January 30, 2017 at 01:51 PM



“ *Dish Garden with Fresh Cut Flowers was purchased for the family of Clela C. Miller.*



January 28, 2017 at 06:49 PM

JW

“ *Clela was our neighbor when we moved to Storm Lake. On summer evenings, we took our lawn chairs out and we would have a neighborhood gathering. What wonderful memories of such a sweet, kind happy lady.*

Joyce and Bob Wilson - January 27, 2017 at 06:34 AM

DT

“ I tried to visit Aunt Clela as often as I could. I was always appreciative of the fact that she cheerfully greeted her guests that visited her. She always asked how everyone was doing, she enjoyed a good laugh too!

Aunt Clela was a Godsend to my mother Marian Tallman when she transitioned to Otsego Place, and they were each blessed to have their sister there for love and support.

We had good family gatherings at Otsego Place, with family members bringing meals and sharing them together in a private dining room as a family meal. Much in the same way as was done at Grandma Shellenberger's house in Early, Ia. decades earlier. She loved having me bring fresh tomatoes from my garden. And even after I wanted to give up gardening, I continued gardening so as not to disappoint her receiving fresh cherry tomatoes to snack on.

Aunt Clela loved the sun, and we'd visit out on the sun porch at Methodist Manor, most days. Sometimes I attended activities with her at Methodist Manor as well.

She will be dearly missed, by all who loved her. I rest assured that she was greeted into Heaven, by my mother and other passed relatives.

David Tallman - January 26, 2017 at 05:14 PM

PD

“ Pat Davidson lit a candle in memory of Clela C. Miller



Pat Davidson - January 26, 2017 at 12:54 PM

PD

Clela's faith was so strong--she always inspired me when I took her communion.

Pat Davidson - January 26, 2017 at 12:55 PM

HH

“ *Heidi Howard lit a candle in memory of Clela C. Miller*



Heidi Howard - January 26, 2017 at 11:02 AM

HH

Sure do miss Clela's laugh and smile. What a neat lady!!!!

Heidi Howard - January 26, 2017 at 11:02 AM

DS

“ *My sympathy to your families. I always enjoyed taking care of Clela at Otsego Place. A lot of late night visits. She was very special and so sweet. May you all find comfort.*

Deb Sefcik - January 26, 2017 at 08:00 AM

JD

“ *John And Connie Demers lit a candle in memory of Clela C. Miller*



John and Connie Demers - January 25, 2017 at 01:20 PM

DH

“ *I enjoyed knowing Clela when she was at Methodist Manor. She was special! May her soul rest in peace and her family receive graces to endure the sorrow.*

Donna Holmes - January 25, 2017 at 11:42 AM



“ *She was such a sweet and beautiful soul. I enjoyed being in her presence. My sympathies in this time of your loss.*

Julia Kitson Behm - January 25, 2017 at 07:27 AM