



Dorothy Beenken

August 5, 1930 - August 21, 2024

Dorothy Janet Beenken, 94, of Grundy Center, passed away on August 21, 2024, at her home.

Dorothy was born on August 5, 1930, in Reinbeck, IA, the daughter of James and Ida (Sweerin) Ritchey. She was raised in Reinbeck and graduated with the class of 1948. On June 5, 1948, she was united in marriage to Jake Beenken whom she had met at the local roller skating rink. The couple raised four children and farmed near Holland until 1979 when they moved to Grundy Center. She and Jake served as sextons of the Grundy Center Cemetery for 25 years and Dorothy also worked at Plastronics and sorted corn for Pioneer. She was extremely proud of her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren and loved attending their events. She and Jake enjoyed traveling to many places but their favorite was wintering in Pea Ridge, Arkansas. Dorothy was known for her candy making skills, loving jig saw puzzles, crocheting, and rooting for the Iowa Hawkeyes (and Cyclones when they weren't playing Iowa).

Dorothy is survived by her children: Dennis Beenken and Steven (Kate) Beenken of Grundy Center and Carol (Joe) Doerges of Spearfish, SD; 5 grandchildren - Justin (Whitnee) Beenken Dawn (Charles III) Rivers, Derick (Amanda) Haman, Kyle (Heather) Doerges and Trent Doerges; and 8 great-grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her husband Jake (2013),

daughter Beverly (2016), grandson Bryan (2021), her parents and three sisters - Lavonne Schroeder, Marguerite Dreier, and Audrey Schneider.

A Celebration of Life service will take place at a later date. Memorials may be directed to the family for a future donation.

Tribute Wall

SD

“ To Dorothy’s family, my heart felt condolences to you all. The last time I was able to talk with Tweet was when Denny & her were at my mom’s viewing last March, I’m glad we got to visit and reminisce although much too brief.
Many good times & funny stories to be remembered.
Sandy

Sandy Dunham - August 31, 2024 at 07:00 PM

LW

“ I always loved talking to Tweet! She had such good stories to share. When she and Jake would visit us when we were camping....what fun and laughter. And then there were her candies. She would give extra to Mom (Frieda Beenken) and she would share with us. Yumm! She will be missed. May God wrap his arms around each of you and give you comfort as only He can give. Linda Beenken Wehrman

Linda Wehrman - August 26, 2024 at 09:26 PM

MS

“ I just read of Dorothy's death in the paper and it brought back so many great memories of the good times Lee and I had doing things with her and Jake, especially when we visited them in Arkansas and they came to see us in Florida. My sincere wish for God's comfort at this time. Margaret Shay

Margaret Shay - August 24, 2024 at 10:16 PM

MS

“ Sweet Tweet. such a kind caring heart. I have thought of you often and how you put your arm around me and "protected" me when I needed it:)

My thoughts and prayers are with your family at this difficult time.

Marcia Stahl

MARCIA STAHL - August 24, 2024 at 03:06 PM

CM

“ She was a grand lady from my point of view. Being her doctor was a pleasure because she tried to make an effort to stay healthy. She also was stubborn enough to do it her way. She brings back memories of what a patient-doctor relationship is forged. I will remember her and Jake for the rest of my life.

Chuck and Marty - August 24, 2024 at 05:00 AM