



Irene Becker

April 26, 1923 - June 18, 2013

She was born Nellie Irene Osborne on April 26, 1923 in Boone County, Iowa. She became estranged from most of her family at 6 years of age when her parents placed their 6 children in an orphanage during the Great Depression. She was a foster child with a number of families, which forced her to learn quickly (at the tender age of 11) how to manage housework and children. After high school, Irene attended Broadlawns School of Nursing in Des Moines, training at Cook County Hospital in Chicago, and the Marine Hospital on Staten Island, New York. Upon graduation, she worked as a night charge nurse for Broadlawns main hospital as well as in the polio and tuberculosis units. She delivered many infants in the E.R. After a few years she moved to Oelwein, Iowa, to run the office of Drs. Jack and Jaggard. Her wish was to someday travel with the Red Cross blood bank, but instead she married Joseph M. Becker in January 1952 at St. Joseph, Missouri. Joe preceded her in death in July, 1990. Irene had returned to work earlier as a charge nurse at Grandview Nursing Home from which she retired in 1982. She was unfailingly kind and compassionate to her family, elderly patients and families, and her neighbors.

Irene is survived by her three children: Christa (Bob) Kelly of Cedar Falls, Mark and Renalda Becker (her main caregivers) of Cedar Falls, and Patrice "Patty" (Paul) Skinner of Belvidere, Illinois; six grandchildren and 14 great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a sister, Evelyn Kollmann. Services will be held 11:00 a.m. Thursday at Trinity Bible Church in Cedar

Falls with inurnment at a later date in Oelwein. Visitation for one hour prior to the service Thursday at the church. Richardson Funeral Service is in charge of arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to Cedar Valley Hospice.

Tribute Wall

ED

“ Jason, Im sorry to hear about the loss of your grandma.

Eric Dodge - October 15, 2013 at 03:34 PM

SA

“ Irene's sister Eva Osborne Spears Buenneke and Eva's daughter Colleen Spears Alexander send and share our deepest sympathy to the family of Irene.

Steve & Colleen Spears Alexander - October 15, 2013 at 03:34 PM