



Murel Flanders

July 4, 1923 - July 24, 2016

Murel Flanders, 93, of Oskaloosa, died Sunday, July 24, 2016, at the Oskaloosa Care Center in Oskaloosa. She was born July 4, 1923, in Mahaska County the daughter of Sumner and Silvie M. Tyrell Flanders. She graduated from Bussey High School with the class of 1941. On June 3, 1941, she was united in marriage to John "Jack" Vernon Kerr at Lancaster, Missouri. To this union three children were born, Verna, James and John. Jack and Murel later divorced. Murel worked at Pella Rolscreen now Pella Corporation, she retired from there after 33 years of service. Her heart was always on the farm. She grew up on a farm near Bussey and spent her days helping her dad with chores. She had a lifelong love of farming and she enjoyed raising, sheep, donkeys, and miniature horses. She also enjoyed baking. She delighted in spending time with her family. When her parents were living she made it a point to see them several times a week. She also enjoyed spending time with her children and grandchildren. She was a very kind, loving and generous person. She was a hard worker and maintained her independence throughout her life.

In her later years, Murel began to study the Bible and learned many things that brought her much joy. As a result, she was baptized on April 28, 2007 as one of Jehovah's Witnesses. She attended the Oskaloosa Congregation. Although her age limited her ability to do all that she wanted to do, she shared with Verna in sharing what she learned with others in the community.

Her family includes her two children, Verna (Jerry) Beal of Oskaloosa, and John (Judy) Kerr of Minnesota; ten grandchildren; thirty great grandchildren; and ten great great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, a son, James Eugene Kerr; a brother, Orlie Flanders and a great granddaughter, Patricia Beal.

As was Murel's wish her body has been cremated and no visitation is planned. There will be a celebration of life ceremony held on Saturday, August 27, 2016, at 2 p.m. at the

Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses in Oskaloosa with Danny Fryer officiating. The Bates Funeral Chapel is in charge of the arrangements. Memorials may be made to Oskaloosa Care Center Activity Fund, Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, or Stephen's Memorial Animal Shelter. Murel's family would like to thank the Oskaloosa Care Center for the kind and compassionate care that Murel received as a resident.

