

Maxine Scheel, 93

April 24, 1915 - April 5, 2009

AVOCA — Maxine Rosetta Scheel was born on April 24, 1915 to Walter and Polly Etta (Stephenson) Rieck in Guernsey. The family moved to Walnut when Maxine was four. She graduated from Walnut High School with the Class of 1932. She furthered her education at Simpson College and also took classes from Drake University. She received her teaching certificate and began teaching at a country school near Walnut and later was a substitute teacher for Walnut, Avoca, and Shelby schools as well as being a tutor.



Maxine was united in marriage to Allen Henry Scheel on August 6, 1938. Three children were born to this union: Diane, Allen, and Polly. She was an active member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Avoca where she served on the church council, was Vice President of the church women and served on the Altar Guild for several years. She was a member and past president of the Avoca PEO Sisterhood for over fifty years as well as a member of the Avoca Women's Federated Club where she also served as president. She was on the building committee for the Edwin Davis Memorial Library in Avoca, a member of the Avoca Library Board, and was the Red Cross drive chairman in Avoca for several years as well as handling other civic duties. She was a member of several bridge clubs and enjoyed traveling; taking trips to Prague, Czechoslovakia; Stockholm, Sweden; and Helsinki, Finland, when Allen and his family were assigned to the United States Embassies there. She also visited her children in the United States. Maxine moved to Peace Haven Retirement Home in Walnut in July of 2001 and became a resident of Avoca Assisted Living in October of 2006. Maxine died on Sunday, April 5, 2009, having attained the age of ninety-three years, eleven months, and twelve days.

Maxine was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Allen, sisters Phyllis, Wanda, and Rose Ann; brother Walter and infant brother Everett. She is survived by her children: Diane and her husband John Polley of Lindale, TX, Allen Scheel and his wife Donna of Springfield, VA, and Polly and her husband Ray Kostelc of Bonita Springs, FL; her grandchildren: Jennifer and her husband Kevin Bushman of Ontario, Canada, Joseph Kostelc and his wife Nicole of Willow Springs, IL, Christine Kostelc of Clarendon Hills, IL, and Jason and Allison Scheel of Springfield, VA; great-grandchildren: John and Julia Bushman, Joseph, II and Alexander Kostelc; nieces and nephew; other family members and friends.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday, April 7, 2009 with Pastor Dennis Reich leading

the 11:00 AM service at Trinity Lutheran Church in Avoca. Honorary casket bearers were Dr. Gary Johnson, Terry Carley, Lonni Nelsen, and Wylie King. Serving as casket bearers were Kevin Jacobsen, Ray Beebe, Wayne Jacobsen, J Olesen, Bob Luna, and Gene Sornsen. Interment was held at the Graceland Cemetery.

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