

Josephine Suhr, 91

April 4, 1912 - Feb. 24, 2004

WALNUT — Josephine Mildred Blakely Suhr, daughter of Rolla James and Viola Margaret (Bates) Blakely, was born April 4, 1912, on a farm near Oakland. She attended country school at James Township Number 6 near Hancock through the eighth grade before attending Oakland High School. After high school, she worked in different homes in the Oakland area cooking and cleaning.

Dec. 21, 1932, Josephine married Raymond George Suhr in Walnut. They were the parents of eight children. After their marriage, they made their home on a farm outside of Walnut. In 1949, they moved to Walnut where they operated a trucking firm and were livestock buyers. She grew up attending the Christian Church of Oakland and later transferred to the Peace United Church of Christ in Walnut. In August of 1997, she became a resident of Peace Haven in Walnut and remained there until October of 2003 when she moved to the Oakland Manor. This is where she died Feb. 24, 2004, at age 91 years, 10 months and 20 days.

In addition to her parents, Josephine was preceded in death by her husband, Raymond; a daughter, Norma Jean; two sons, Raymond Jr. and James, as well as three sisters, Orlene Hundt, Margery Wamer and Lillian Hansen; and one brother, Ted Blakely, Jr. she is survived by her children, Verla (Howard) Christensen of Fountain Hills, AZ; Charles Suhr (Hazel) of Walnut; Kenneth Suhr (Marie) of Walnut; Marilyn (John) Singer of Omaha, NE; and Terry Suhr (Cindy) of Walnut; a daughter-in-law, Carol Suhr of Walnut; 16 grandchildren; three step grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; two sisters, Peggy (Derald) Russmann of Omaha, NE and Doris Irwin of Council Bluffs; a brother, Richard Blakely (Helen) of Little Rock, AR; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held March 1, 2004, at the Peace United Church of Christ with Pastor David O'Rourke officiating. Burial was in the Layton Township Cemetery, Walnut. Honorary casket bearers were Troy Suhr, John Sievers, Timothy Suhr, Brad Suhr, Audie Hennington, Christopher Suhr, Joseph Harmon, Alan Sorensen, Brian Zych and Rodney Suhr. Casket bearers were Trent Suhr, Scott Suhr, Jeffrey Christensen, Kevin Suhr, Tad Singer, Brian Suhr and Shane Suhr. Pauley Jones Funeral Home, Walnut Chapel in charge of arrangements.