

### Ernestine Hiley, 84

Oct. 29, 1927 - Aug. 17, 2012

**AVOCA** — Clarisa Ernestine

Hiley was born on October 29, 1927 to Floyd and Clarisa (Lincoln) Neill on the family farm near Nodaway. She attended Nodaway Public School until her freshman year when the family moved to Malvern. She graduated from Malvern High School with the Class of 1945. She went on to receive her Iowa teacher's certificate and began teaching rural school at Evanham near Henderson. The next year she taught at Spring Valley which was closer to her home in Malvern. She would drop her mother off at the Foxworthy rural school to teach and go on to her school at Spring Valley. A group of early students remained lifelong friends and were referred to as "The Gang".



Ernestine met Art Hiley at a dance in Mineola. He had returned from serving in World War II. They were married on June 12, 1949 at the Presbyterian Church in Malvern. One year later they moved to Avoca where they owned and operated the Hiley Hatchery as well as the local laundromat. Ernestine received her Bachelor of Science degree in education from Drake University in 1962 and taught schools in Hancock and Avoca for thirty-seven years. After Art's death in 1979, she began making ceramics for her friends and family. She was an active member of the United Church of Christ in Avoca as well as the Avoca History Museum and the Business Women's Association. She was a past Matron of the Eastern Star and celebrated fifty years as a member. She was a Designate of the Grand Cross of Color for the Supreme Assembly of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls and a member of the Beta Iota Chapter of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International in the State of Iowa. After her retirement in 1992, she traveled extensively throughout the United States, the British Isles, Europe, and Asia. She enjoyed participating in the yearly Christmas Walk and the Food and Fine China event. In 2003, Ernestine became a resident of the Avoca Nursing and Rehab Center where she died on Friday, August 17, 2012, having attained the age of eighty-four years, nine months, and nineteen days.

Ernestine was preceded in death by her parents, her beloved husband, Art, sister Floy Waage, and brothers Walter, Sam, and Allen. She is survived by her nephews Sam Waage and his wife Nancy of Nebraska and Andrew Neill and his wife Kathy of Oklahoma; nieces Andrea and her husband John Rootham of Minnesota, Rebecca and her husband Ernest Faris of Arizona, Diana and her husband Larry Marshon of Ohio, Judy and her husband Darold Johnson of Virginia, and Debbie and her husband Joseph Libanati of Colorado; other family members and many friends.

Pastor Darrell Hopp officiated the 10:30

a.m. funeral service on Wednesday, August 22, 2012 at Pauley Jones Funeral Home in Avoca. Serving as casket bearers were John Rootham, Robert Rootham, Alex Rootham, Sam Waage, Mark Waage, Ryon Waage, Travis Neill, and Andrew Neill. Interment was held at the Oakland Cemetery in Quincy.

  
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*Paul*