

## Bernice Howe, 71

*Aug. 6, 1932 - Sept. 23, 2003*

**KIRKMAN** - Bernice Joy Howe, daughter of Alfred and June (Andersen) Christensen, was born Aug. 6, 1932, in Kirkman. She graduated from Kirkman High School in 1950. She continued her education at Dana College in Blair, NE, receiving her Bachelor of Science degree in education.

Aug. 3, 1957, at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Harlan, she married Lowell I. Howe. The couple began farming northeast of Shelby, and they later moved to their current home located southeast of Kirkman. Bernice was an active member of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Harlan. She taught school in Shelby County for 36 years, retiring in 1993. She was honored as the 1993 Harlan Teacher of the Year. Bernice was devoted to her family and was named Harlan Mother of the Year and Merit Mother of Iowa in 1990. Bernice spent lots of time at the Shelby County Fair each year, and was inducted into the Shelby County Fair Hall of Fame in 1992. She died Sept. 23, 2003, at Salem Lutheran Home at age 71 years, one month and 17 days.

Preceding Bernice in death were her parents. She is survived by her husband of 46 years, Lowell Howe of Kirkman; one son, Warren (Julie) Howe of Marengo; one daughter, Marietta (Michael) Edwards of Matthew, NC; two brothers, LaVon (Nancy) Christensen of Kirkman and Carl Christensen of Omaha, NE; two sisters, Edith (James) Rosman and Mary Ann Cloud, both of Omaha, NE; five grandchildren and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Sept. 26, 2003, at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Harlan, with Pastors Delwayne Hahn and Heather Ploen officiating. Honorary casket bearers were Bert Hillers, John Haas, Louie Troll, Edwin Olson, Willard Olson, Don Anderson and Gale Baughman. Casket bearers were Rod Brace, Elliott Svendsen, Keith Fiscus, Jason Ploen, Lamont Christensen and Dale Clemons. Burial was in the Rose Hill Cemetery in Kirkman. Burmeister-Johannsen Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

