

Rev. Nancy Nichols, 68

February 26, 1931-April 29, 1999

PERRY - Nancy Joyce Nichols, the third and youngest daughter of Marvin F. Nichols and Olga Seastrand Nichols was born Feb. 26, 1931 in Oak Park, IL. She grew up in Broadview, IL. At age 16, she moved with her family to Wisconsin and graduated from high school in Plainfield. She received her BA degree from Iowa Wesleyan College in 1953 and her BD degree from Drew University, Madison, NJ in 1956. She came to Iowa and was the first woman fully ordained in the Iowa Conference of the United Methodist Church. Her entire working life was spent as pastor of United Methodist Churches in Iowa. Her tenure began in 1956 serving in Brighton. In 1958 she served in a circuit which included the communities of Nichols, Cedar Valley and Conesville. In 1961 she served in Irwin-Kirkman, which became Irwin-Kirkman-Manilla in 1966. In 1969, Nancy served in Hamburg; 1971 Melbourne-Rhodes; 1980 Coggon; and in 1984 she began serving in Grand Junction. Rev. Nancy Nichols retired in June 1993.

After retirement, she made her home in Perry and was active in the United Methodist Church there. Also, she was a member of Chapter OK, P.E.O. and was active as a volunteer for the Perry Library and the North Dallas County Habitat for Humanity. She died April 29, 1999 at Iowa Methodist Medical Center in Des Moines at age 68 years.

She was preceded in death by her father in 1962, her mother in 1967 and her sister Dorothea J. Nichols in 1997. She is survived by one sister, Marion (Olof) Noreen of Puyallup, WA; two nephews, Marvin Norren and James Noreen and other relatives.

Funeral services were held May 5, 1999 at the First United Methodist Church in Grand Junction with Pastor Lynn Wyatt, Pastor Charles Thompson and Pastor James Pemble officiating. Inurnment was in the Junction Township cemetery, Grand Junction. Honorary casket bearers were Steve Altman, Dennis Ostrander, Ivan Hillman, Jimm Ellenberger, Weldon Woltz, Virgil Pedersen, Den Hoskinson, and Dale Mount. Suninger-Rossow Funeral Home, Grand Junction, in charge of arrangements.