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## **Lorene Nienkamp, 92**

**July 9, 1905 - Dec. 1, 1997**

**CRETE, NE** - Emma Sophia Wilhelmine Lorene Nienkamp, known to all as Lorene, daughter of Christian and Louise (Finke) Sickmeier, was born at Freelandville, IN, July 9, 1905. She was baptized and confirmed at Bethel Evangelical Church (now United Church of Christ) at Freelandville. After attending Illinois Wesleyan University at Bloomington, IL and caring for an ill sister, Lorene enrolled at the Deaconess Hospital School of Nursing at Saint Louis, MO. It was there that she met a special patient, an Eden Seminary student, Robert P. Nienkamp.

They were married at a private ceremony June 26, 1933, just days following Robert's seminary graduation. Their marriage was blessed with four sons. Robert served as pastor of Evangelical and Reformed congregations in the states of Missouri, Illinois, California, Louisiana, Nebraska, Iowa and at Genoa, OH, where he died April 24, 1959 at age 52 years. After Robert's death, Lorene, with the exception of eight years, lived the rest of her life in Crete, NE.

She married Peter Ficken in 1966, and until Peter's death in 1974, she lived in Marshall, OK, after which she returned to her home in Crete and retook the Nienkamp name. In August 1991 she suffered a severe stroke. From then until her death Dec. 1, 1997, at age 92, she resided on the extended care floor of the Crete Municipal Hospital.

In addition to her husbands, Robert and Peter, she preceded in death by two sisters, Aline Sickmeier and Irene Mackey, and by one brother, Ronald Sickmeier. She is survived by her four sons and daughters-in-law, Gary (Ann) Neinkamp of Harlan, and Nebraska City, NE; Robert (Joan) Nienkamp of Columbus, NE; William (Bonnie) Nienkamp of Crete, NE and David (Sandra) Nienkamp of Edgar, NE. She is also survived by nine granddaughters; one grandson; two great grandsons and by one sister, Pauline Walls of Indianapolis, IN.

Funeral services were held at the Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ at Crete, NE Dec. 3, 1997, and at Saint John's United Church at Genoa, OH, Dec. 5, 1997. Burial was in the Clay Township Cemetery, Genoa, OH, Dec. 5, 1997.