

## Valora Petersen, 91

Sept. 24, 1918 - Sept. 29, 2009

**AVOCA** — Valora Elroy "Val" Petersen was born on September 24, 1918 to Roy and Lulu (Yarrington) Sutherland in Villisca. She was baptized and confirmed at the English Lutheran Church and graduated from Villisca High School.

September 1, 1943, Val was united in marriage to Harald Petersen in Starkville, MS. Three sons were born to this union: Michael, Greg, and Stan. Val had worked as a cashier at the grocery store, as a clerk at the telephone office, at the café, and stayed home with her boys when they were young. She enjoyed beating her grandchildren at board games, especially Scrabble.

She liked to go bowling, do ceramics and needlework, and keep up with both close and distant family. She also liked to watch golf and Wheel of Fortune on television. She was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary and served as president in the past. She was also on the Fire Department Auxiliary and a member of Trinity Lutheran Church and sang with the church choir. Val lived at Peace Haven Retirement Home in Walnut until her death at Avoca Nursing and Rehab Center on Tuesday, September 29, 2009, having attained the age of ninety-one years and five days.

Val was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Harald, her son Michael, and her half-brothers Max and Keith. She is survived by her sons Greg Petersen and his wife Marge of Avoca, and Stan Petersen and his wife Deone of Shawnee, KS; daughter-in-law Lois Petersen of Akron, OH; eight grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; half brother Dean Sutherland and his wife Lois of Des Moines; half sister-in-law Dorothy Sutherland also of Des Moines; other family members and friends.

Pastor Dennis Reich officiated the 10:00 AM funeral service on Friday, October 2, 2009 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Avoca. Serving as casket bearers were Joss Petersen, Ryan Wieseler, Matt Petersen, Jay Petersen, Greg Stafford, Joel Petersen, Chris Blazen, and Dave Wilson. Interment was held at Graceland Cemetery in Avoca.



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