

Mary Louise Watkins, 83

Jan. 8, 1917 - April 12, 2000 ✓

SHELBY — Mary Louise Watkins was born on a farm near Shelby, Jan. 8, 1917, daughter of Fred C. and Mary Dorscher Petersen, and was one of three children in the family. She was baptized and confirmed in the St. John's English Lutheran Church in Co. Bluffs. Mary Lou graduated from Abraham Lincoln High School in Co. Bluffs and from business college in Fort Collins, CO and attended Omaha University.

She married Ralph H. Watkins Feb. 8, 1939, at the Presbyterian Church in Co. Bluffs. Following their marriage, they moved to their farm south of Shelby and continued living there after Ralph retired in 1976. She was a member of the Shelby Methodist Church and the Shelby Federated Women's Club. She died at Jennie Edmundson Hospital in Co. Bluffs, April 12, 2000, at age 83 years, three months and four days.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband, Ralph. She is survived by her brother, Dr. Fred Petersen of Fort Collins, CO, and a sister, Evelyn Buzzel of Avoca; three nephews and two nieces and other relatives.

Funeral services were held April 15, 2000, at the Knutson Funeral Home with Reverend Brian Sherman officiating. Burial was in the Shelby Cemetery. Casket bearers were Harold Lefeber, Delmar VonEschen, Donald Bladt, David Lefeber, Don VonEschen and Ed Mickalak.

