

Obituary for Lillian C. Swanson Holstein

Lillian C Swanson Holstein, age 90 of Brainerd, Minnesota and formerly of Alta, Iowa died on January 18, 2012 at Bethany Good Samaritan Home, Brainerd, Minnesota.

Lillian Christine was born to Adolph and Maren Marie Gregersen on February 7, 1921 near Saratoga, Iowa. She was confirmed at Immanuel Lutheran Church near Alta, Iowa. She graduated from Fairview High School near Alta in 1938.

On April 29, 1941 she was united in marriage to Melvin Joel Swanson in Rockford, Illinois. Through the years they were blessed with daughters, Janet, Lorraine, Phyllis and Joleen. In 1943 Melvin was drafted to serve in the south Pacific, Lillian and daughter Janet went to live with her parents. When Melvin returned from the war they began farming in the Alta area. Lillian was devoted to her family and gave herself to caring for people through her work at the Alta Hospital and participation in church and community clubs.

Lillian's hands were always busy cooking, sewing or knitting special gifts for those she loved. Melvin passed away suddenly in 1989. Lillian later married Raymond Holstein and continued to celebrate life until Raymond passed away in 2002.

Lillian resided at WEL-Life in Alta from 2002 to 2006. She moved to Good Samaritan Home in Newell, Iowa until 2008, when she transferred to the Bethany Good Samaritan Home in Brainerd, Minnesota until the time of her passing.

Those left to cherish her memory are daughters Janet (Clayton) Porter of Adel, Iowa, Lorraine (Bill) Plander of Blaine, Minnesota, Phyllis (Don) Witzel of Palmer, Alaska, and Joleen (Garry) Gaffey of Pine River, Minnesota, 12 grandchildren, 17 great grandchildren, and 1 great-great grandchild. Sister Clara (Melvin) Samuelson, brother Kenneth (Evelyn) Gregersen, and many nieces and nephews. Extended families include Ron and Kathy Holstein and family, Bob and Jeanette Holstein and family and Don and Sheryl Platt and family.

Lillian was preceded in death by her parents Adolph and Marie Gregersen, husband Melvin Swanson, husband Raymond Holstein, sister Vivian Toomer, and niece Anita Coon.