

Obituary

M. Lena Weber

Mary Lena Peckham Weber, 96, was born May 16, 1911, to Robert J. and Clara (Twing) Peckham on a farm southeast of Pawnee City, Nebraska and died January 18, 2008 at Warren Memorial Hospital Long Term Care Unit in Friend. Lena graduated from Pawnee City High School in 1927 and Cotner College in Lincoln, Nebraska in 1931. She majored in English and Latin and taught at Nemaha and Dorchester Public Schools. While at Dorchester she met Hans Weber, a local farmer. They were married August 11, 1938, and moved to the family farm where they lived until moving to Dorchester in 1968. Three children were born to the family: Mary Anne, Robert and Thomas. Lena enjoyed her life as a farm wife and mother, always encouraging education and insisting upon using proper grammar. Lena prided herself in her flawless penmanship and spelling ability. Her friends, relatives, children and grandchildren enjoyed her frequent and newsy letters from home. She volunteered as a 4-H leader and directed the church Christmas program. She especially enjoyed participating in literary guild and extension clubs. Lena was active in the United Methodist Church, serving as president of United Methodist Women for a number of years and also as a district officer.

The grandchildren visited Grandma and Grandpa frequently and were treated to chocolate "everyday" cookies and parker house rolls better known as "lips". Lena's specialties were cream cheese mints and caramels, special treats for holidays and other occasions. Her caramels were a popular item at the annual church auction. Lena and Hans seldom missed an activity at the Dorchester school when the grandchildren were involved. Lena had a special interest in and a talent for quilting-making quilts for all the children and grandchildren. She enjoyed quilting with the women of the Methodist Church. In recent years, she enjoyed doing "word finds" and reading.

She is loved and remembered by her three children: Mary Anne Guggenmos and her husband, Fred, Stromsburg, Robert Weber and his wife, Judy, Friend, Thomas Weber and his wife, Judy, Dorchester, eight grandchildren, Cynthia Buhl and her husband, Dion, Osceola, Steven Guggenmos and wife, Alesia, Herndon, Va., John Weber and wife, Shannon, Bozeman, Mont., Joel Weber and wife, Amy, Dorchester, Doug Weber and wife, Christi, Troy, Idaho, Ellen Hansen and husband, Nick, Lincoln, Donna Kraus and husband, Grant, Crete and Megan Weibye and husband, Richard of Grand Forks, N.D.; 10 great-grandchildren; and many other relatives and friends.

Lena was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Hans in 2000, and a sister, Jessie.

A Funeral Service was held at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 23, 2008, at the Dorchester United Methodist Church with Rev. Jeff D. Adams officiating. Interment was in the Dorchester Cemetery. Visitation was on Tuesday, from 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Lauber-Moore Funeral Home, Friend, and one hour prior to services at church. The family greeted friends and relatives Tuesday from 4-6:00 p.m. at the funeral home. Pallbearers for Lena's service are her grandchildren and their spouses. Memorials have been established to the

Dorchester United Methodist Church or to the donor's choice. Susan Weber, organist, accompanied the congregation as they sang, "How Great Thou Art", "Hymn Of Promise" and "O God, Our Help In Ages Past". Lauber-Moore Funeral Home, Friend, is entrusted with the arrangements.