

*F*rederica "Freddie" Kruse, age 81, of Spencer, Iowa, and formerly of Marathon, died on Friday, July 27, 2007, at her home in Spencer.

Frederica Helen Shepherd, the daughter of Silas and Ethel A. (Tout) Shepherd, was born on a farm south of Laurens, Iowa, on May 13, 1926. Freddie lived her youth and received her education at Laurens, graduating from the Laurens High School in 1943. Following graduation, she worked in a grocery store and also the Laurens State Bank.

On August 5, 1946, Freddie was united in marriage to John Kruse at Jackson, Minnesota. This couple was blessed with three children: Jon, Barry, and Cindy. Following their marriage, John and Freddie lived at Madrid, Iowa, for one year and then moved to Marathon in 1947 where they owned and operated a grocery store until 1967. In 1966, Freddie became the secretary to the superintendent and Board of Education of the Marathon School District. She served in that role for 20 years. Freddie was also the Marathon city treasurer from 1990 until June, 2007.

In earlier years, Freddie enjoyed bowling, camping, and bicycling but in more recent years, she spent her time gardening, sewing and crocheting. She especially enjoyed playing cards. She was an active member of the Marathon United Methodist Church and had been a treasurer for many years of the Church Circle. Freddie enjoyed young people and had served as a 4-H Leader for seven years. She was a 30 year member of the Rebekah Lodge, 500 card clubs, the Unique Club, and the Birthday Club.

Her family was very important to her and those who will cherish her memory include her children: Jon and Colleen Kruse of Storm Lake, Iowa, Barry and Debra Kruse of Fostoria, Iowa, Cindy and Eric Parrish of Spencer, Iowa; a special friend, Duane "Denny" Anderson of Spencer, Iowa; 10 grandchildren; 11 great grandchildren; a step-sister, Edna Kellim of Jackson, Tennessee; other relatives and a host of friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, John, in 1999; her step-mother, Pearl Shepherd; one sister, Violet; and her half brother, Fredrick.

Blessed be the memory of Freddie Kruse.



Celebrating

A Special Life



Frederica Kruse

"Freddie"

1926 — 2007



I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free
I'm following the path God laid for me.
I took His hand when I heard Him call
I turned my back and left it all.


I could not stay another day
To laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way.
I've found that peace at the close of day.

If my parting has left a void
Then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss.
Oh yes, these things I too will miss.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow.
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I savored much,
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.

Perhaps my time seemed all too brief.
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your heart and share with me.
God wanted me now, He set me free.

--author unknown

e wish to express our gratitude for the kindness evidenced in
thought and deed, and for your attendance at this service. Please
join us for lunch and a time of fellowship and sharing at the church following the
burial.



The Kruse Family

IN MEMORY OF

Frederica "Freddie" Kruse

May 13, 1926 — July 27, 2007



FUNERAL SERVICE

Monday, July 30, 2007 at 10:30 a.m.
United Methodist Church —Marathon, Iowa

CLERGY

Reverend David Schumann

ORGANIST

Nita McLaughlin

CONGREGATIONAL HYMNS

"How Great Thou Art"
"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

HONORARY CASKET BEARERS

Freddie's Granddaughters
Stacy Pyle, Steph Haila, Janice Kurtenbach
Kimberly Gaubatz, Stacy Kruse, Crystal Kruse
Katie Parrish, Christy Parrish, Megan Parrish

CASKET BEARERS

Freddie's Grandsons
Lance Kruse, Greg Kruse, Joe Gaubatz
Scott Pyle, Nate Haila, Nick Parrish, Paul Kurtenbach

INTERMENT

Poland Township Cemetery
Marathon, Iowa



Arrangements by

SLIEFERT FUNERAL HOMES

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Albert City • Storm Lake • Marathon • Sioux Rapids