

Virginia K. Hollesen, age 95, of Sioux Rapids, Iowa, went peacefully to be with the Lord on Tuesday, February 17, 2009 at Sioux Care Center in Sioux Rapids.

Virginia Katherine Cowan was born on October 14, 1913 in the living quarters of the Chicago North Western Depot in Sioux Rapids, Iowa. She was the fifth child and only daughter of Harriet (Hawley) Cowan and Hoarace Resor Cowan. She lived in Sioux Rapids her entire life, was graduated from Sioux Rapids High School with the Class of 1930, and on June 16, 1931 married her childhood sweetheart, Louis Carroll "Jack" Hollesen. To this union four children were born: Jack, Alan, Linda and Katherine.

In the summer of 1974, Virginia totally committed her life to Jesus Christ and tried faithfully from then on to serve Him. She was immersed in believer's baptism on August 14, 1977 and joined the newly established Sioux Rapids Baptist Church. She was one of the four founders of this church and was active there in several capacities. For years she held a Bible Club, "The King's Kids," once a week in her home, where boys and girls, ages 6 to 16, could come for games, lunch and spiritual truths. Young people were very important to her and she took time to teach, counsel and just listen. At present, Virginia was a member of Victory Baptist Church in Spencer, Iowa.

Virginia delighted in her family. They were her joy, her comfort and her pride. She enjoyed having them as guests, taking trips with them, and spending time in their homes. Her special interests, after her Lord and her family, were birds, books, cross-word puzzles and Christian friends.

She always had a keen interest in poetry, and after the tragic death of their second son, Alan Don, on April 4, 1942, she started writing. She has published four books of poetry.

Over the years, she works at People's Food Market, Vic Schuelke Motors, Dale's Clothing, the local library and as cashier at Marshall's Kitchen.

Survivors include her children: Jack Hollesen and wife Ruby of Hull, Iowa; Linda Heidebauer and husband Harlan of Waukon, Iowa; and Kathy Jatho and husband Larry of Lansing, Iowa. Also surviving her are her grandchildren: Don and Sunny Hollesen; Jack and Shilah, Jonathon, Gracee and Jennifer, all of Colorado Springs, Colorado; Paul and Charlene Hollesen, Jessica, Tyler, Joshua and Andrew of Sioux City, Iowa; Lori Luginbill, Ashley and Bradley of Elk River, Minnesota; Traci McGraw, Jessica and Melissa of Mankato, Minnesota; Angela and Michael Lopp, Rachel, April, Aaron and Emily of Reedsburg, Wisconsin; Carol and Kelly Boelsma of Ashton, Iowa; and Todd Heidebauer of West Concord, Minnesota.

Preceding her in death were her husband in 1971, her son, her parents, and five brothers.

Memorials in Virginia's honor may be directed to the  
Victory Baptist Church in Spencer, Iowa.

# In Loving Memory



*It is of the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed; because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is thy faithfulness.*

*Lamentation 3: 22-23*

## Virginia K. Hollesen

1913  2009

## Pray! Do Not Weep!

*When earthly ties are broken, hearts ache so  
And you know how much I love you, every one.  
But this we know: all mortal life must end  
This is God's law for all beneath the sun.  
The day must come—I'll lie beneath your gaze,  
Lids closed in that long, last eternal sleep.  
I know, my children, you'll be sorrowing—  
You'll live days past, and wish me here and weep.  
Remember then the words that I now pen:  
Please do not grieve for me and shed sad tears.  
Instead, rejoice that I am Home at last,  
Safe with the Friend I've known and loved for years.  
I know without the shadow of a doubt  
Christ Jesus, born a man, will be my guide.*

*He'll take my hand in His (Oh, blessed thought!)  
And lead me safely to the Other Side.  
Think of me then in joy and love and peace  
Without this tattered, worn-out, shabby shell  
Without the aches and pains of earthly life,  
Forevermore in perfect health to dwell.  
Without the fears and problems we have now,  
Without the grief and disappointments, too.  
But perfect peace for all eternity  
And some day, sweet reunion there with you!  
Try not to grieve—rejoice, rejoice, rejoice!  
I've left you only for a little while.  
And I'll be waiting There, my arms outstretched,  
In welcome with the old, familiar smile.*

— Written by Virginia K. Hollesen on October 13, 1978

**W**e wish to express our sincere gratitude for the many kindnesses evidenced in thought and deed, and for your attendance at this service. You are invited to join us for lunch and a time of fellowship at the Sioux Rapids Community Center immediately following the burial.

 **Virginia's Family**

## IN MEMORY OF Virginia Katherine Hollesen

October 14, 1913  February 17, 2009

### Funeral Service

Friday, February 20, 2009 at 11:00 a.m.  
Sliefert Funeral Home — Sioux Rapids, Iowa

### Clergy

Reverends Michael Lopp and Joseph Davenport

### Organist

Tara Davenport

### Duet

Becky Linn and Lynn Secor

### Casket Bearers

Todd Heidelberg, Harlan Heidelberg, Larry Jatho  
Don Hollesen, Paul Hollesen, Kelly Boelsma

### Honorary Casket Bearers

Thomas Roland, Terry Gerbken, Ross Harmonson  
Thomas Linn, Aubrey George, Thomas Morse

### Interment

Lone Tree Cemetery — Sioux Rapids, Iowa



Arrangements by

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