

 Shirley Johnson, age 84, of Marathon, Iowa died Monday, January 25, 2016 at the Spencer Municipal Hospital in Spencer, Iowa.

Shirley Jane Mullins, was born on September 1, 1931, at the farm north of Marathon, Iowa, to Sherman and Edith (Smith) Mullins. She lived her youth in the Marathon vicinity and graduated from the Marathon High School in 1949. Shirley was baptized and confirmed at the United Methodist Church in Marathon.

On October 8, 1948, Shirley was united in marriage to Eugene Johnson in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. This marriage was blessed with two children: Rosemary and David. They were together for 67 years and farmed near Marathon for over 50 years. Shirley was proud of the farm becoming a Century Farm as she had enjoyed working in the fields and was equally proud of her yard, especially her flowers, both outside and inside. She enjoyed making wooden lawn ornaments and painting them, in addition to crocheting and other handwork. Shirley and Eugene went to many dances and car races over the years. She was very fond of dogs, especially dachshunds and labs, and raised many dogs along with some great strays. Shirley passed her love of dogs onto her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Shirley is lovingly remembered by her family which include her husband, Eugene of Marathon, Iowa; children: Rosemary (Pete) Norgaard of Dickens, Iowa; and David (Becky) Johnson of Spencer, Iowa; grandchildren: Laurie (Brian) Brueggeman, Angelique Norgaard (friend, Dan Claus), Zechariah (Tina) Norgaard, Megan Johnson, Kaye (Adam) Rickman; great grandchildren: Brianne Bailey (fiancé, Derek Riewe), Samantha and Miranda Brueggeman, Tori Adams, Storm and Izak Norgaard; step granddaughters: Diana (Blake) Ward and Sara (Ben) Schoo; great-great granddaughter, Tynley Rose Riewe; sisters-in-law: Vera Klindt, Dolores Sierck, and Nylene Jones; brother-in-law, Ronald (Sandy) Johnson; nieces, nephews, other extended family and many friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; sister, Gladys Chapman; sister-in-law, Ina Sheets; brothers-in-law: Kenneth Chapman, Howard Sheets, Bob Sierck, Harold Klindt and Gordon Jones; and great grandson, Miles Norgaard.

In Loving Memory



Shirley Jane Johnson
1931 — 2016

Comes The Dawn

After a while you learn the subtle difference
Between holding a hand and chaining a soul,
And you learn that love doesn't mean security,
And you begin to learn that kisses aren't contracts
And presents aren't promises
And you begin to accept your defeats
with your head up and your eyes open,
With the grace of a woman, not the grief of a child,
And you learn to build all your roads
On today because tomorrow's ground is too uncertain.
And futures have a way of falling down in midflight,
After a while you learn that even sunshine burns if you get too much.
So you plant your own garden and decorate your own soul,
Instead of waiting for someone to bring you flowers.
And you learn that you really can endure...
That you really are strong,
And you really do have worth
And you learn and learn
With every goodbye you learn.

— by Shirley Johnson

We 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 Marathon Community Center immediately following the burial.

— The Family of Shirley Johnson

IN MEMORY OF

Shirley Jane Johnson

September 1, 1931 — January 25, 2016

FUNERAL SERVICE

Saturday, January 30, 2016 at 10:30 a.m.
Sliefert Funeral Home — Albert City, Iowa

CLERGY

Reverend Wendy Van Tassell

RECORDED SELECTIONS

“Peace In The Valley”

“In The Garden”

“Go Rest High On That Mountain”

CASKET BEARERS

Brian Brueggeman, Dan Claus, Zech Norgaard
Adam Rickman, Blake Ward, Ben Schoo

INTERMENT

Poland Township Cemetery — Marathon, Iowa

Arrangements by

SLIEFERT FUNERAL HOMES

www.sliefert.com

Albert City • Marathon • Sioux Rapids • Storm Lake