



Eva Gertrude Echelberry

December 26, 1919 - May 30, 2018

Eva Gertrude Echelberry, 98, of Sigourney and formerly of Hedrick, died Wednesday, May 30, 2018, at the Keokuk County Health Center in Sigourney. She was born Friday, December 26, 1919, in rural Fremont, the daughter of Earl and Sadie Breon Grade. She attended school in Fremont. She later married Cecil "Pete" Echelberry. To this union six children were born: Francis, Virginia, Patricia, Carma, Martha and Stanley. They also parented three grandchildren: Robert Bollinger, Sarah Jean Palmer and Julie Berggren. Pete died in 1981. Eva worked her whole life as a homemaker and a farm wife. She milked cows, gardened, made homemade pies and noodles and raised and butchered 100 chickens every year. She will be remembered for her ability to make homemade lye soap. In her later years, Eva enjoyed quilting and donated many lap robes.

She is survived by her three daughters: Virginia Ball of Arlington, Virginia, Patricia Simmons of Fairfield and Martha (& Lynn) Swearingen of Richland; a son: Stanley (& Barbara) Echelberry of Hedrick; 21 grandchildren; 50 great grandchildren; and 8 great great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; a son in infancy: Francis Echelberry; a daughter: Carma Bollinger; three sisters; and two brothers.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, June 2, 2018, at 11 A.M. in the Hedrick- Martinsburg United Methodist Church with Reverend Tim Schoepf officiating. Burial will be in the Mt. Zion Cemetery north of Martinsburg. Visitation will begin Saturday, June 2, 2018, after 9 A.M. at the Hedrick- Martinsburg United Methodist Church and the family will be present at the church Saturday from 10 A.M. until service time at 11 A.M. to greet friends and relatives. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorials be made to the Hedrick- Martinsburg United Methodist Church.

Cemetery Details

Mt Zion Cemetery

Martinsburg, IA 52568

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 2. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Hedrick-Martinsburg United Methodist Church
Hedrick, IA

Funeral Service

JUN 2. 11:00 AM (CT)

Hedrick-Martinsburg United Methodist Church
Hedrick, IA

Burial

JUN 2 (CT)

Mt Zion Cemetery
Martinsburg, IA 52568

Tribute Wall

JR

“ I am the first grandchild so I knew Grandma longer than any other grandchild. Grandma had so many neat things to poke and prod. After butchering a hog she would make lye soap. She cut big chunks to sit in the sun to dry & harden. Almost every chunk ended up with little grandchild finger holes. It was irresistible. Grandma tolerated things from me that her children would never have gotten away with. I had a little housedog that not only was in the house, but slept with me. I don't think she would have liked for everyone to know she had gone soft on a dog. I don't remember her ever complaining about being tired or the amount of work she had to do. She always told the truth even when it meant she might point out one of your failings. Most of all, I remember how much I love her.

Jacqueline (Jackie Ball) Ruckman - May 31, 2018 at 11:32 PM