



Leona Maxine Harris, the daughter of John Wesley and Anna Aryl (Miller) Foster was born March 17, 1919 in rural Fremont County, Iowa and passed away November 27, 2003 in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Growing up in the Shenandoah area, Leona received her education from the Shenandoah High School, and graduated in 1937. That same year, Leona was united in marriage to Eugene Elbert Smith, and in this union had four daughters: Sandra Elaine, Betty Jean, Mary Ann and Barbara Lynn and one "adopted" son, Bill Selby. They lived in Shenandoah where they raised their children until Gene's passing. Leona was a "stay at home mom" providing a loving and caring home atmosphere for her family. Her family were the most important people in her life. In 1976, Leona married Spencer Harris. They enjoyed traveling, camping and spending winters in south Texas. She was a member of the First Christian Church in Shenandoah since 1931, a past member of the Nishna Valley Saddle Club, the HD Women's Club and the Ramblin' Rose Camping Club.

Preceding Leona in death were her parents; husband, Eugene Smith; sister, Opal Foster; brother, Boyd Foster, and son-in-law, James Stanley.

Leona loved her family, friends and her church very much. She is survived by her husband, Spencer Harris of Shenandoah, daughters and sons-in-law, Sandra and Lee Riley of Shenandoah, Betty Stanley of Glenwood, Iowa, Mary Ann and Nick Paulson and Barbara and Steve Padilla of Council Bluffs, Iowa. Also surviving are stepchildren, Raymond Harris and wife, Nancy of Shenandoah, Patricia Honeyman and Donna Harris both of Omaha, Nebraska, sisters, Mae Mobley of Shenandoah and Naomi Bloom and husband, Bill of Wheatland, Missouri, a very close friend, Arlyne Collins of Shenandoah, plus 19 grandchildren, and 26 great grandchildren.

Leona was an inspiration to all who knew her; she was an extraordinary lady. We will miss her smile, wisdom, guidance, faith, sense of humor and her unconditional love; and of course, her chicken and noodles!



Thanks for the memories – we love you!

Leona Maxine Foster Smith Harris

God gives us each an Angel
at the moment of our birth
to guide us and protect us
while we are here on earth.
That Angel was our mother
and when we saw her smile,
we knew that she was telling God
She was watching all the while.



March 1919 - November 2003

Earth has no sorrow
that Heaven cannot heal. . .