

Celebration of Life Memorial from
Hackett-Livingston Funeral Home
Shenandoah, Iowa
Saturday, May 11, 2013
10:30 a.m.

Words of Comfort
Pastor Mike Kalstrup

Memorial Register
Judy Wilson

Caring for Flowers
Laurie Johnson & Carolyn Ruhde

Songs of Comfort
"Amazing Grace"
"How Great Thou Art"
Becca Jackson ~ Soloist

Pianist
Terry Stafford

Casket Bearers
Kevin Griffith Matthew Barrett
William Cowen Jacob Griffith
Jacob Barrett Gary Haskin

Honorary Bearers
Richard Barrett Joseph Bartlett
 Brian Griffith

Resting Place
Rose Hill Cemetery
Shenandoah, Iowa



Rachel Cowen was born on October 8, 1915 in Mammoth Spring, Arkansas to the late Robert and Martha (Blackburn) Powell. She was born in a log cabin built by her grandfather. Rachel was raised and schooled in the Mammoth Spring's area.

In 1934, she married Loyd Griffith. To this union one child, Noel was born. On February 10, 1947, she was united in marriage with James Cowen in Hutchinson, Kansas. Two children, Donald and Marjorie, were born to their union.

During World War II, Rachel worked assembling bombs for the Emerson Electric Company in St. Louis, Missouri. After her marriage to Jim, they engaged in farming in the Hutchinson and Mammoth Spring area before moving to Shenandoah, Iowa in 1952, where they also farmed. In 1984, Jim and Rachel moved to Council Bluffs, Iowa where they remained until September of 1995 when they returned to Shenandoah. Through the years, Rachel worked in the hospital, nursing homes and private homes in the Shenandoah area. Even after retiring, she continued to reach out to others with a gentle hand and loving spirit. Family and friends have warm memories of her love of baking through the many pies, cakes and bread she shared. Rachel was a charter member of the Memorial Baptist Church and enjoyed serving wherever she was needed. She taught Sunday school for 27 years and had the pleasure of teacher her own children and grandchildren.

Rachel was preceded in death by her parents; brother; husband Jim; son Noel Griffith and her former daughter-in-law Joanne Cowen. Survivors include two children, Donald L. Cowen of Shenandoah and Marjorie A. Barrett and husband Richard of Sunrise Beach, Missouri; daughter-in-law Nedra Griffith of Kansas City, MO; grandchildren Kevin Griffith and wife Holly of Harrisonville, MO, Keith Griffith of Kansas City, MO, Matthew Barrett and wife Deann of Colorado Springs, CO, Monica Bartlett and husband Joseph of Shenandoah, IA, Elizabeth Egge of Danbury, CT and William Cowen and wife Erin of Kalamazoo, MI; seven great-grandchildren; two great-great grandchildren; other family and friends.

Proverbs 31: 10-31

A wife of noble character who can find?
She is worth far more than rubies.

Her husband has full confidence in her
and lacks nothing of value.

She brings him good, not harm,
all the days of her life.

She selects wool and flax
and works with eager hands.

She is like the merchant ships,
bringing her food from afar.

She gets up while it is still night;
she provides food for her family
and portions for her female servants.

She considers a field and buys it;
out of her earnings she plants a vineyard.

She sets about her work vigorously;
her arms are strong for her tasks.

She sees that her trading is profitable,
and her lamp does not go out at night.

In her hand she holds the distaff
and grasps the spindle with her fingers.

She opens her arms to the poor
and extends her hands to the needy.

When it snows, she has no fear for her household;
for all of them are clothed in scarlet.

She makes coverings for her bed;
she is clothed in fine linen and purple.

Her husband is respected at the city gate,
where he takes his seat among the elders of the land.

She makes linen garments and sells them,
and supplies the merchants with sashes.

She is clothed with strength and dignity;
she can laugh at the days to come.

She speaks with wisdom,
and faithful instruction is on her tongue.

She watches over the affairs of her household
and does not eat the bread of idleness.

Her children arise and call her blessed;
her husband also, and he praises her:

“Many women do noble things,
but you surpass them all.”

In Beloved Memory

