

*In  
Loving Memory*



**Esther L. Johnson Butler**

*Born*                      *Entered Into Rest*  
August 27, 1923        March 11, 2005  
Imogene, Iowa        Shenandoah, Iowa

*Age*  
81 Years 6 Months 12 Days

*Mass of Christian Burial*  
2:00 P.M.

Monday, March 14, 2005  
St. Mary's Catholic Church  
Shenandoah, Iowa

*Celebrant*  
Reverend Donald Bruck

*Eucharistic Ministers*  
Evelyn Pontious - Roena Shey

*Reader*  
Ernie Aust

*Memory Register*  
Sharon Baldwin - Rosalyn Martin

*Caring for Flowers*  
Susan Etscheidt

*Organist*                      *Soloist*  
Mary Beth Gowing        Jane Emge

*Musical Selections*  
"Precious Lord" - "On Eagle's Wings"  
"When Irish Eyes Are Smiling"

*Gift Bearers*  
Nancy & Brian Larson

*Ushers*  
Elmer & Hilda Mattern

*Casket Bearers*  
Jerry Baldwin - Bob Larson - Jim Larson  
Louis Saner - Mike Saner - Tom Saner

*Honorary Bearers*  
Norman Kling - Robert Regan - LeRoy Spargur

*Final Resting Place*  
Rose Hill Cemetery

*Irish Blessing*  
*May the road rise up to meet you,*  
*May the wind be always at your back,*  
*May the sun shine warm upon your face,*  
*The rains fall soft upon your fields,*  
*And until we meet again,*  
*May God hold you in the palm of his hand.*

Esther L. Johnson Butler

Esther Lorraine Johnson Butler, age 81, the daughter of Joseph J. and Margaret Ann (Laughlin) Saner was born August 27, 1923, in Imogene, Iowa, and passed away March 11, 2005, in Shenandoah, Iowa.

Growing up in Imogene, Esther graduated in 1941 from Saint Patricks' School. On September 2, 1950, she was united in marriage to Keith Johnson at Saint Mary's Catholic Church. They lived near Essex, Iowa until 1956 when they moved to Shenandoah. After Keith died in 1961, Esther continued to live in Shenandoah. On August 16, 1980, she was married to John "Jack" Butler at Saint Mary's Catholic Church in Shenandoah, moving to Red Oak, Iowa, where they owned and operated the Hilltop Motel until 1991 when Jack passed away.

Through the years Esther had been employed at Henry Field's and Lakes Nurseries and West Page Improvement Center. She enjoyed playing golf, and performing in the Knights of Columbus Variety Show. On Thursday nights she could often be found singing at the American Legion Country Club with Bill Knittle accompanying her on the piano.

Preceding Esther in death were her parents; husbands, Keith Johnson in 1961 and John Butler in 1991; brothers, Ambrose, John and Louis Saner; and sister, Angela Larson.

Survivors include her sons and daughters-in-law, Arnold and Mary Le Johnson of Houston, Texas and Roger and Juli Johnson of Omaha, Nebraska. Also surviving is her sister, Evalyn Saner of Shenandoah; grandchildren, Sarah and Aaron Johnson of Omaha; several nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

*Services Entrusted to  
Selby Funeral Chapel  
Shenandoah, Iowa  
[www.selbyfuneralchapel.com](http://www.selbyfuneralchapel.com)*

