OSWALD, Florence (Westergaard)

March 1, 1921
rural Menno, South Dakota
February 1, 2002
rural Menno

Viborg Enterprise
February 7, 2002

Florence Oswald

Florence Oswald, age 80, of rural Menno, SD passed away at her residence Friday, February 1, 2002. Funeral services were held Tuesday, February 5, 2002 at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, rural Irene, SD, with Rev. Mindy Ehrke officiating. Burial was in the Garden of Memories Cemetery Yankton, SD. Pallbearers were Jason Oswald, Jared Oswald, Justin Oswald, Aaron Oswald, Andrew Van Schoiack, and Duane Westergaard. Honorary pallbearers were Rachel Van Schoiack, Ashley Oswald, Emily Oswald, and Kelsey Oswald.

Florence was born on March 1, 1921, near Menno, South Dakota to Otto and Annie (Sorensen) Westergaard. She attended rural school at Oswald School District #56 in Yankon County through the eighth grade, and graduated from Viborg High Scbool in 1939. After graduating from Southern State Normal School in 1940, she taught school in the rural Anderson School District #52 in Yankton County for four years. On June 14, 1944, Florence married Elwin Oswald at Elim Lutheran Church, rural Irene. They had known each other since childhood. All of their married life they lived on and farmed the Oswald home place in the Midway area. Florence and Elwin were 4-H leaders in Yankton County for 20 years. They enjoyed working with kids, and teaching them many life skills. Florence was baptized and confirmed at Elim Lutheran Church. Elwin and Florence belonged to Zion Evangelical United Brethren, rural Menno, until it closed. Then they joined Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, rural Irene. Florence was an active member in both churches. She was active in W.E.L.C.A. and held many offices over the years. She was also a Sunday School teacher and, together with Elwin, was a Luther League advisor.

Florence was devoted to her church and family and gave freely of her time to both. She enjoyed gardening, cooking, and quilting, and shared the fruits of her labor with many people.

Survivors include her husband, Elwin, rural Menno; two sons Ordell and his wife, Shirley, of Viborg, David and his wife, Tamra, of Sioux Falls; one daughter Mary Ann and her husband, Dean Van Schoiack, of Savannah, Missouri; seven grandchildren Jason Oswald and his wife, Sherri, of Yankton, Jared Oswald and his wife, Amy, of Viborg, Justin Oswald of Viborg, Aaron and Ashley Oswald of Sioux Falls, Rachel and Andrew Van Schoiack of Savannah, Missouri; two great granddaughters Emily and Kelsey Oswald of Yankton; a sister, Mildred Kuhlman of Parkston; one sister-in-law, Alinda Guthmiller of Menno, and many other relatives and friends.

Florence was preceded in death by her parents and her brother, Harlyn, of Sioux Falls.

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