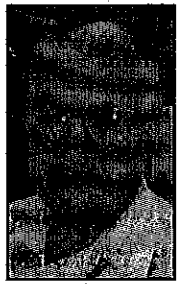


## Gertrude Rieck, 95

Gertrude "Gert" Rieck, 95, of North English, formerly of Deep River and Montezuma, died Thursday, Oct. 6, 2011, at the North English Care Center in North English.

Funeral services were held at 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, Oct. 11, at the United Church of Deep River with Pastor Michelle Williamson and Pastor George Salnave officiating. Burial was held in the Golden Rod Cemetery in Deep River. For those who desire, memorials may be left at the funeral home or sent to the North English Care Center Activities Department or Iowa Hospice. Friends may sign the online guest book at [www.hollandcoblefuneralhome.com](http://www.hollandcoblefuneralhome.com). Holland-Coble Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.



Helen Gertrude Rieck was born in Ellis, S. D., on June 4, 1916, to Thomas and Grace (Harlow) Phillips the third of five children. At the age of 10, she moved with her family to Deep River, where her father purchased and managed the Deep River Telephone Company. During high school and after graduation, she helped her family operate the telephone company. On June 8, 1938, Gert married Gerald Rieck of Deep River and to this union three children were born. The couple operated the DX gas station in Deep River until 1941, when they moved to a family farm northeast of Deep River.

Gert was actively involved in the operation of the farm as well as volunteering in many activities in the Deep River Community. As a 4-H leader, she led the Deep River Lassies, a little known club in Poweshiek County, to one of the top clubs in the county. She spent a total of 25 years as a leader and county committee women. Gert was a member of the United Church of Deep River and was an active participant in their "donut days" and the annual chicken dinners. She enjoyed her times spent with the Busy Bee and Sunshine Sisters clubs. Gert was a 50 year member of the Order of Eastern Star, a member of the Daughters of the Nile and Past Matrons. You could see her on the bleachers of softball, baseball, volleyball, basketball games and track meets of her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Once Gert became a grandmother, she was known as "Grandma Gert," not only to her three generations of grandchildren, but to two generations of kids in the Deep River community. After her children were raised, Gert worked at the telephone office in Deep River until the dial phones were operational. She also was the activity coordinator at the Poweshiek County Center (Diamond Life) and as a Green Thumb volunteer at the Job Service office in Grinnell. Her accomplishments as the activity coordinator were visible throughout Poweshiek County. The residents, rarely seen out of the facility, were well known locally and at county functions. After retiring from the farm in 1978, Gert and Gerald moved to Lake Ponderosa in rural Montezuma. They opened their home to family and friends alike where Gerald taught many of them how to water ski. Once in Montezuma, Gert joined the Literary Club and the First Presbyterian Church, where she continued her community involvement until moving back to Deep River and eventually North English. She will long be remembered for all of the wedding and special event cakes she baked, the quilts she made, and the many Plaster of Paris figurines she made and taught the children to make in the Deep River-Millersburg and the Montezuma Schools. Gert also enjoyed taking her adult art class and painting in her spare time.

Gert is survived by her three children, Gwen Rieck of Montezuma, Marilyn (Bill) Warwick of Deep River, and Wayne Rieck of Montezuma; a sister, Louise Morrison of St. Paul, Minn.; four grandchildren, Kim (Ron) Tanke, Keri (Mike) Jensen, Tracy (Mary) Warwick and Robin (Phil) Morris; 12 great-grandchildren; seven great-great grandchildren; and three special nieces and their families in Arizona.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 58 years, Gerald; her parents; two sisters (one in infancy); and a brother.

PCR 10-12-2011

The Record 10-13-2011



**"GERT" RIECK**

Gertrude "Gert" Rieck, 95 of North English, formerly of Deep River and Montezuma died Oct. 6, at North English Care Center in North English. Services were, Oct. 11, at the United Church of Deep River. Burial was in Golden Rod Cemetery in Deep River.

Helen Gertrude Rieck was born in Ellis, S. D. June 4, 1916 to Thomas and Grace (Harlow) Phillips. When she was 10, the family moved Deep River, where her father purchased and managed the Deep River Telephone Company. During high school and after graduation, she helped her family operate the telephone company.

On June 8, 1938, Gert married Gerald Rieck of Deep River and to this union three children were born. The couple operated the DX gas station in Deep River until 1941, when they moved to a family farm northeast of Deep River.

Gert was actively involved in the operation of the farm as well as volunteering in many activities in the Deep River Community. As a 4-H leader, she led the Deep River Lassies, little know club in Poweshiek County to one of the top clubs in the county. She spent a total of 25 years as a leader and county committee womsn.

Gert was a member of the United Church of Deep River and was an active participant in their "donut days" and the annual chicken dinners. She enjoyed her times spent with the Busy Bee and Sunshine

a member of the Daughters of the Nile and Past Matrons. You could see her on the bleachers of softball, baseball, volleyball, basketball games and track meets of her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Once Gert became a grandmother, she was known as "Grandma Gert" not only to her three generations of grandchildren but to two generations of kids in the Deep River community. After her children were raised, Gert worked at the telephone office in Deep River until the dial phones were operational. She also was the Activity Coordinator at the Poweshiek County Center (Diamond Life) and as a Green Thumb volunteer at the Job Service office in Grinnell.

Her accomplishments as the Activity Coordinator were visible throughout Poweshiek County. The residents, rarely seen out of the facility, were well known locally and at county functions. After retiring from the farm in 1978, Gert and Gerald moved to Lake Ponderosa in rural Montezuma. They opened their home to family and friends alike where Gerald taught many of them how to water ski.

Once in Montezuma, Gert joined the Literary Club and the First Presbyterian Church, where she continued her community involvement until moving back to Deep River and eventually North English. She will long be remembered for all of the wedding and special event cakes she baked, the quilts she made and the many plaster-of-Paris figurines she made and taught the children to make in the D R-M and the Montezuma Schools. Gert also enjoyed taking her adult art class and painting in her spare time.

She is survived by her three children, Gwen Rieck of Montezuma, Marilyn (Bill) Warwick of Deep River and Wayne Rieck of Montezuma; a sister, Louise Morrison of St. Paul, Minn; four grandchildren, Kim (Ron) Tanke, Keri (Mike) Jensen, Tracy (Mary) Warwick and Robin (Phil) Morris; 12 great-grand-children; seven great-great grandchildren and three special nieces and their families in Arizona.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 58 years, Gerald; her parents; two sisters (one in infancy) and a brother.