

Obituary

Atkinson, Erma Lorraine Groeger

Born January 16, 1921, in Humphrey, Nebraska, to parents Lawrence and Emma Bessert Groeger, and died September 17, 2008, in Dallas, Texas. Erma will be remembered as a devoted wife, mother and grandmother. She attended the Humphrey Public Schools and Wayne State Teachers College. During World War II she worked as a secretary for the Department of Agriculture in Washington, D.C., and after the war continued to work for the Department in Lincoln, Nebraska. She married Gaylord Atkinson in 1948 and lived in the Kansas City area for 50 years, raising two daughters, Kathleen and Janet, of whom she was most proud. While in Kansas City, Erma worked for the Marley Company for several years. She moved to Dallas in 2000 to be with family. Erma was confirmed in the Missouri Synod Lutheran Church in Humphrey and was active in the church throughout her life. Erma was preceded in death by her sister Merle Sienknecht. She is survived by Gaylord Atkinson, her husband of 60 years; her daughters, Kathleen (Dhyan) Atkinson of Boulder, Colorado, and Janet McClain and her husband Derek McClain of Dallas; and grandchildren Megan and Christopher McClain. A memorial service will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, October 3, at the Lutheran Church of Our Savior, 4153 Rainbow Blvd., Kansas City, Kansas. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (in honor of Erma's love of dogs) or to the charity of your choice.