



Rachel Near

September 11, 1916 - February 9, 2012

Rachel M. Near, 95, of Franklin Grove, died Thursday, Feb. 9, 2012, surrounded by her family at Franklin Grove Health Center. Rachel was born Sept. 11, 1916, in Amboy, the daughter of John and Nellie (Skinner) Wittenauer. She married Kenneth E. Near on Oct. 23, 1934, in Amboy. He preceded her in death on Jan. 10, 1973. Rachel worked at Kline's Department Store in Dixon for 20 years before her retirement in 1981. She was a member of Franklin Grove United Methodist Church, Franklin Grove Women's Club and China Township Home Extension. She is survived by daughters Beverly (John) Bach of Fox River Grove and Carol (Coy) Burgess of Dixon; sons, Doug (Mary) Near of Dixon, William Near of Franklin Grove and Robert (Cheryl) Near of Dixon; 21 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; many great-great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. She was also preceded in death by her son, Duane Near; brothers, Allen "Pete" Wittenauer and Gordon Wittenauer; sister, Thelma Long; and her half-brother, Irvin Leuscher. Visitation will be from 2 to 8 p.m. Friday at Jones Funeral Home in Dixon. An additional visitation will be from 9 to 10 a.m., followed by the funeral at 10 a.m., Saturday at Franklin Grove United Methodist Church, with the Rev. Jin Ho Hong officiating. Burial will be at Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens in Dixon. A memorial has been established to Franklin Grove United Methodist Church.

Tribute Wall



“ *Rachel Near*

October 08, 2023 at 11:30 AM



“ *Rachel Near*

December 31, 2022 at 02:40 AM



“ *I was very saddened to hear of the passing of Aunt Ray. My deepest sympathy and prayers go out to her family and friend. She was a wonderful lady and she will be missed very much. I will always have a special place in my heart for her. As a kid I always enjoyed our visits to her family farm, they are some of my most pleasant and treasured memories. I love you Aunt Ray. God speed Dear Lady.*

Dennis Wittenuer - February 09, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Rachel was a wonderful person. She always had a smile and a kind word. She was my neighbor for many years. I did alot of walking while I lived in Franklin Grove. When she was outside, I would stop and visit with her, often. My thoughts are with you.*
Connie (Spangler) Cole

Connie Spangler Allen Cole - February 09, 2012 at 12:00 AM