



Ann Josephine Walker

November 22, 1921 - January 5, 2008

Ann Josephine Walker: Ann passed away at her home Saturday evening at home, surrounded by her family.

In 1947, she married George F. Walker in Oskaloosa; the two had been close friends since early childhood and were even bathed together as infants. Ann focused her attention on raising children, though she never lost her passion for the arts. Her creativity and artistry came through in all she did, but her special flair was for ceramics and watercolor painting. She had a deep appreciation of primitive and Native American art. Her lifelong love of jazz grew over the years, and her keen ear for talent never waned. She kept well-informed of current events as well as history and could be counted upon to solve the missing spaces in her husband's crossword puzzles. She had a fondness for all animals, though dogs held a special place in her heart. Those who knew her will remember her independence, strength, and determination, and her endless love for and devotion to her family, her friends, and her community.

She was born on November 22, 1921, the daughter of Carl and Mabel (Hill) Johnson and was a 1939 graduate of Oskaloosa High School. At Stephens College in Columbia, Missouri, she studied vocal music for two years, particularly opera, but chose not to follow a life of professional music. Instead she transferred to the University of Iowa where she received her B.A. in Art.

Following graduation, she worked for a short time in Chicago, but soon returned to her treasured hometown, where she was employed at the Lacy Hotel.

Besides her parents, Ann was preceded in death by her husband George, her twin brother, Mark Johnson, and her cousin ("sister") Mary Gilderbloom. Survivors include her daughters and sons-in-law Joey Walker and Craig Jarvie of Iowa City, IA; Carrie Walker and Paul Hoak of Dummerston, VT; and five grandsons: Tai Senior of Melrose, MA, Luke Senior of San Francisco, CA, Jake Hoak and Marc Hoak of Dummerston, VT, and Walker Jarvie of Iowa City.

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Tribute Wall



“ *Ann Josephine Walker*

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