



Wanda Marie Larsen, 87, of Burwell, Nebraska died November 18, 2017 at the Community Memorial Health Center in Burwell.

Funeral services will be 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, November 21, 2017 at the United Methodist Church in Burwell. Burial will be in Cottonwood Cemetery in Burwell. Pastor Dennis Davenport and Pastor Alan Petersen will officiate. Visitation will be Monday from 5 – 7 p.m. at Hitchcock Funeral Home in Burwell. Memorials are suggested to the United Methodist Church, First Congregational Church, Diabetes Association or the American Heart Association.

Wanda was born March 16, 1930 in Loup County, Nebraska to Karl and Matilda (Petersen) Ziegler. She attended District 24 grade school and graduated from Burwell High School in 1948. Wanda went to the University of Nebraska for two years.

Wanda married Rolland Essman on July 1, 1951 in Burwell. They lived in Scotia, Nebraska where she taught school for six years from 1950 to 1956. She also drove the school bus for nineteen years for North Loup-Scotia Schools. Rolland died February 6, 1987. In 1989 Wanda moved to Burwell and married Eldon Larsen on February 1, 1989. Eldon died January 3, 2009.

Wanda drove the school bus for Burwell Public Schools for many years and was also a waitress. She enjoyed reading. She was a member of the Methodist Church, Legion Auxiliary, Garden Club, Church Circles, Eastern Star and the Loup Trail D.A.R.

Wanda is survived by her children, Ray & Lea Essman of Taylor, Nebraska, Marilee and John Garrison of Omaha, Nebraska, Tom and Leslie Essman of North Loup, Nebraska, Maxine Wolsleben of Lexington, Nebraska, Mark and Cindy Larsen of Broken Bow, Nebraska, Maurie and Lynette Larsen of Burwell, Nebraska and DeEtta and Mike Egbert of Grand Island, Nebraska. Twenty-two grandchildren and twenty-two great-grandchildren.

Wanda was preceded in death by her parents, two husbands, Rolland Essman and Eldon Larsen, a son-in-law, Karl Wolsleben, a grandson, James Essman, a brother, Gordon Ziegler and a sister, Ruth Fisher.