



## Dorothy "Dodie" Mae Benn Johnson

July 25, 1921 - June 26, 2024

Dorothy "Dodie" Mae Benn Johnson, age 102, of Rockwell, IA passed away peacefully on Wednesday, June 26th, 2024, at the Rockwell Community Nursing Home.

Dorothy was born on July 25th, 1921, at home on her family's farm in Rockwell, IA to Fred and Margaret Cassman Benn. Her early education was in a one-room schoolhouse down the road, and she graduated from Swaledale High School. On February 21st, 1945, Dorothy was united in marriage to Richard John Johnson at the Chapel of Mercy Hospital shortly before his entry into the service. Once Richard returned from World War II, the pair began farming together and raising their two children Mary and James.

Dorothy was a pioneer who had a lifelong passion for farming. She treasured spending time with family and her very large tribe of devoted friends. Dorothy was a talented quilter, cross stitcher, gardener and markswoman. She was also an avid Iowa Hawkeyes fan and clever card player. Dorothy knew how to keep life simple while having a whole lot of fun along the long ride. Her independence, determination, quick wit and mischievous smile will be forever remembered. We will miss Dorothy's adventurous spirit and zest for living a life well loved.

The family is endlessly grateful for Dorothy's team at the Rockwell Community

Nursing Home and sincerely appreciates all their compassion and thoughtful care.

Dorothy is survived by her son, James Richard Johnson of Mason City, IA; son-in-law, James Michael Netzel of Charlotte, NC; sister, Marjorie Eileen Benn Jerrell of Mason City, IA; granddaughter, Emily Benn Netzel Reidenouer (Jonathan) of Charlotte, NC; and many beloved cousins, nieces, nephews and other family members.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Richard John Johnson; her daughter, Mary Margaret Johnson Netzel; and her siblings Beverly Jean Benn Nimmo, Otto Forrest Benn, Henry Laverne Benn and Merlin Leroy Benn.

Visitation will be held from 5:00-7:00 p.m. with a Scripture Service at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 9th, 2024, at Fullerton Funeral Home in Mason City, IA. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday July 10th, 2024, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Rockwell, IA. Father Josh Link will be officiating. Dorothy will then be laid to rest at Mount Vernon Township Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that gifts honoring Dorothy go to the Rockwell Community Nursing Home or MercyOne North Iowa Hospice.

Fullerton Funeral Home is caring for Dodie and her family.

# Cemetery Details

## Mount Vernon

Burchnal, IA

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 9. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Fullerton Funeral Home in Mason City  
123 2nd St. SE  
Mason City, IA 50401  
(641) 423-8676  
mail@fullertonfh.com  
<https://www.fullertonfh.com>

## Scripture Service

JUL 9. 7:00 PM (CT)

Fullerton Funeral Home in Mason City  
123 2nd St. SE  
Mason City, IA 50401  
(641) 423-8676  
mail@fullertonfh.com  
<https://www.fullertonfh.com>

## Mass of Christian Burial

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JUL 10. 10:30 AM (CT)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church  
305 Elm Street  
Rockwell, IA

# Tribute Wall

JT

“ Dorothy and her husband were friends of my inlaws. I believe my father-in-law, Clifford "Bill" Thomas, lived with them for a while before he was married. I fondly remember going to Dorothy's farm to buy eggs with my mother-in-law, Betty Thomas.

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**Jennie Thomas** - July 08, 2024 at 09:35 PM

SB

“ I met Dorothy a couple of years ago when I visited her at the nursing home. She was amazing at 100 years old. I delivered meals on wheels to her son and found out that his mother was a sibling of Otto Benn who ran a store in Portland, Ia. I was interested because I had grown up in Portland and have done a lot of history of Portland. Enjoyed visiting with Dorothy. My sympathy goes out to the family.

*Susan (Oelkers) Bier*

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**Susan Bier** - July 02, 2024 at 10:12 AM