



Helen L. Troxel Nickerson Buffington, 96, of Carrollton, Texas, formerly of Columbus Junction, died Monday, March 17, 2008, at the Madison on Marsh Lane in Carrollton .

Funeral services were Tuesday, March 25, 2008 at 2:00 pm at the Stacy-Lewis Home for Funeral and Cremation Services in Columbus Junction. Rev. Alan Barbee officiated. Casket bearers were Kelly McCoy, Brad McCoy, Harry Trader, Richard Trader, Steve Martin and Joe Curry. Burial was in Indian Creek Cemetery. Visitation was one hour prior to services on March 25<sup>th</sup> at the Stacy-Lewis Home. In lieu of flowers, memorials in Helen's name may be directed to the Spring Valley Bible Camp, 2858 180<sup>th</sup> Street, Muscatine, IA 52761 or the Langwood Education Center, 14001 H Avenue, Wapello, IA 52653. Online condolences may be left to the family at [www.lewisfuneralhomes.com](http://www.lewisfuneralhomes.com).

Helen Loretta Troxel was born January 15, 1912, in Wyoming, Illinois, the daughter of Ora J. and Hazel (Dell) Troxel. In May 1927, Helen married Arthur Nickerson. She later was united in marriage to Edwin "Dusie" Buffington on April 8, 1939, in Palmyra, Missouri. Helen and Dusie owned and operated Esquire Cleaners in Muscatine and then farmed in the Sweetland and Columbus Junction areas for over 25 years. Helen enjoyed fishing, traveling, and visiting family in Texas. She was a lifetime member of the Indian Creek Club and of the Methodist faith. As a homemaker she was an outstanding cook, and was an accomplished seamstress and quilter, working on quilts up until just a few months before her death. Helen made her home for the last six years with her daughter in Carrollton, Texas, with the last six months at the Madison on Marsh Lane, also in Carrollton. "Grandma Helen" will be missed for her big smile, quick wit and bright blue eyes.

Helen will be dearly missed by her daughter and son-in-love, Arlene and Wesley Trader of Carrollton, Texas; her daughter-in-love, Eugenia Nickerson of Muscatine, Iowa; eight grandchildren, Kelly McCoy and wife, Linda of Magnolia, Texas, Cara McCoy Barbee and husband, Alan of Arlington, Texas, Brad McCoy and wife, Jeane of Van Alstyne, Texas, Loretta Trader Smart and husband, Robert of Irving, Texas, Candace Nickerson and husband of Sydney, Australia, Barbara Nickerson, Rebecca Nickerson Cruz and husband, Julio, Jr. and Stacy Nickerson Evans and husband, all of Seattle, Washington; sixteen great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; and several nieces and nephews.

Helen was preceded in death by her parents; first husband, Arthur Nickerson; her husband of 54 years, Edwin "Dusie" Buffington; her son, Jackie Nickerson; two grandsons, James and Dennis McCoy; one brother, Harold Troxel; and one sister, Iota Marshall.