



Helen M. Yakish, 87, of Shellsburg, originally from Lone Tree, died Wednesday, March 14, 2007, at Rock Ridge Residential Care Center in Shellsburg. Funeral services for Helen were held at 10:30 A.M. on Monday, March 19, 2007, at the Parker's Grove Baptist Church in rural Shellsburg, Iowa. Visitation for Helen was held on Sunday, March 18, 2007, at the Sorden-Lewis Home for Funeral and Cremation Services in Lone Tree. A memorial fund has been established at the funeral home in memory of Helen. Sympathy notes may be left for the Yakish family at www.lewisfuneralhomes.com

Helen Mildred Petru was born on January 24, 1920, the daughter of Ernest Y. and Maudie Jane (Watkinson) Petru. Helen was united in marriage to Lloyd King Yakish on September 15, 1938. She was a member of the Parker's Grove Baptist Church in Shellsburg, serving as a deaconess, choir member and Sunday School teacher. Helen was employed at Roy's Grocery Store in Shellsburg for over 40 years, retiring when she was 81. She enjoyed flower gardening, especially roses.

Helen will be deeply missed by one son, Bill Yakish and his wife, Rae Jean of Cedar Rapids; one daughter, Marla Ikeda and her husband, Akio, of Fairfax; six grandchildren; ten great-grandchildren; one sister, Irene D. Ford of Lone Tree; and one brother, John "Jack" Petru of Lime Springs.

Helen was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Lloyd on July 5, 2006; four sisters, Betty Bell, Lucille Colbert, Evelyn Carpenter, and Dorothy Petru; and one brother in infancy, Ernest Samuel Petru.

The family would like to extend their appreciation to the staff at Rock Ridge Care Center and to Mercy Hospice for the concern and care given to Helen.