



## Gwen Chance Shepard

February 20, 1926 - September 12, 2022

Gwen (Lemaster) Chance Shepard, age 96, of Albia, IA, passed away on Monday, September 12, 2022, at the Monroe Care Center in Albia.

Gwen was born on February 20, 1926, in Albia, IA. She was the daughter of H Ray Lemaster and Flossie Hamilton. She was raised in the Albia area. Gwen was a farm wife and worked for several businesses in the Lovilia and Albia area. On June 5, 1943, Gwen married Raymond Chance. They farmed outside of Lovilia, Iowa. Ray passed away on August 4, 1976. They had 2 children, Sharon and Steve.

Gwen is survived by her sister, Marlene (Ray) Oulman of Excelsior Springs, MO; her daughter, Sharon Robb of Des Moines; her son, Steve Chance (Carol Emal) of Lovilia; 3 grandchildren, Lisa (Jeff) Cox of Albia, Matt (Kim) Chance of Curryville, MO, and Mitch (Stefanie Schwartz) of Ottumwa; and 7 grandsons, Mason, Jaylon, Blake, Drew, Gage, Ben, and Brock. On March 21, 1981, she married Sam Shepard. Sam passed away on November 27, 1997. She is further survived by Sam's children, Elaine (Dean) James, Delores (Ron) Matthews, Martha (Robert) Van Sickel, Lela (Steve) Griffin, daughter-in-law, Helen Shepard; 15 step grandkids; 29 step great grandkids; and 6 step great-great grandkids.

Gwen was preceded in death by Ray Chance, Sam Shepard; her brothers,

Daryl, Vernon, Verlin, and Dale; son-in-law, Charles Robb and a stepson, Kenneth Shepard.

Visitation will be held from 9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 17, 2022, at the Trinity United Methodist Church in Albia, with Gwen's family present to greet family and friends.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 17, 2022, at the Trinity United Methodist Church in Albia, with Pastor Roger Henry officiating. A private family burial will be held at Woodlawn Cemetery in Lovilia at a later date.

An open memorial has been established to be determined at a later date.

Condolences and memories to the family may be left online at [www.tharpfh.com](http://www.tharpfh.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Woodlawn

Lovilia, IA

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP 17. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Trinity United Methodist Church  
1117 Benton Ave East  
Albia, IA 52531

## Funeral Service

SEP 17. 11:00 AM (CT)

Trinity United Methodist Church  
1117 Benton Ave East  
Albia, IA 52531

# Tribute Wall



“ *Gwen Chance Shepard*

January 30, 2023 at 05:06 AM



“ *Gwen Chance Shepard*

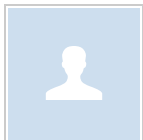
January 30, 2023 at 02:53 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Gwen Chance Shepard.*



September 16, 2022 at 02:44 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Gwen Chance Shepard.*



September 15, 2022 at 07:11 PM

SP

“ I worked with Gwen at Ewers when we first moved to Albia in 1984. She was a wonderful lady who shared some great stories with me. She and Sam became very special to our family, so much so that our daughter named her cabbage patch after them, Gwendolyn Samantha. (And later named our granddaughter Gwen) A few years ago, I stopped by the nursing home to visit Gwen on her birthday and bring her some M&Ms. She said "I don't remember you, but you must know me if you brought me these!" I was blessed to have known her.  
My heartfelt condolences to the family.

*Sherri Peterson*

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**Sherri K Peterson** - September 13, 2022 at 10:05 PM

RM

“ Our family wishes we could be there to celebrate the life of this amazing woman. We loved Grandma Gwen immensely and we are thankful to have her as part of our lives.

*The beautiful memories of family meals, her generosity and care for her whole family was overwhelming.*

*Gwen leaves behind a beautiful legacy and we hope all who attend can grieve and celebrate the life she shared with us all.*

*Love, Russ, Cathy and Caroline Matthews*

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**Russ Matthews** - September 12, 2022 at 08:04 PM