



## Celma "Sally" Birdsall

July 24, 1908 - August 17, 2018

Celma Ann "Sally" Birdsall, 110, of Floris, Iowa passed away on August 17, 2018 at Good Samaritan Society – Ottumwa. She was born on July 24, 1908 in Hampton, Iowa to Henry Otis and Grace Ross Beed. After graduating high school, she attended college for one year and then began teaching in a rural country school outside Hampton. She taught for four years before going to work for Earl Ferris Nursery in Hampton. She married Kenneth Ray Birdsall on May 26, 1932 in Hampton. The couple started a family and moved to a farm outside Floris, Iowa in 1948 and would eventually move to Floris in 1960.

In 1950, Sally became the Postmaster in Floris and held that position until her retirement in 1978. She enjoyed her work and the ability to help people the position gave her. After retirement, Sally and Kenneth traveled to many Postmaster conventions throughout the United States with memorable trips to Hawaii, Boston, San Francisco, New York, and Puerto Rico.

While not working, Sally enjoyed spending time with her family, playing the piano, working jigsaw puzzles and doing crosswords. She was always available to lend a helping hand to others. She had attended the Floris Baptist Church.

She is survived by three children, David (Phyllis) Birdsall, Kay Chickering both of Bloomfield, Larry (Connie Louise Talley) Birdsall of Ankeny, Iowa; 13

grandchildren; 51 great-grandchildren; 48 great-great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Kenneth Birdsall in June 1987; seven siblings; a grandson; three great-grandchildren; and a son-in-law, Donald Chickering.

Funeral services will be at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, August 21, 2018 at the Wagler Funeral Home in Bloomfield with Pastor Mel Kendall officiating. Burial will be at the Hampton Cemetery in Hampton, Iowa at 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday. Visitation will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday with family present to greet friends until the time of the service. Memorials have been established to Good Samaritan Society Activity Center and the Floris Baptist Church.

# Cemetery Details

## Hampton Cemetery

521 4th St. NE  
Hampton, IA 50441

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**AUG 21.** 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Wagler Funeral Home  
304 West Jefferson Street  
Bloomfield, IA 52537  
(641) 664-3421  
<https://www.waglerfuneralhome.com/>

## Funeral Services

**AUG 21.** 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Wagler Funeral Home  
304 West Jefferson Street  
Bloomfield, IA 52537  
(641) 664-3421  
<https://www.waglerfuneralhome.com/>

## Graveside Services

---

AUG 21. 3:30 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Hampton Cemetery  
521 4th St. NE  
Hampton, IA 50441

# Tribute Wall



“ *Celma "Sally" Birdsall*

---

January 28, 2023 at 10:57 AM



“ *I want to send my condolences to all of Sally's Family. Sally was a special lady in the Floris area. We all knew her and enjoyed the times we got to visit with her. When I grew up, almost every time I drove to my Mom's, I would look for Sally taking a walk along the highway, and more times than not, she was. She would always wave and smile!!*

*I planned to come to the visitation this morning, but we've been in and out the last 3 weeks, plus we were taking care of grandchildren today because our daughter-in-law had to go back to work today for a PD day at the school. We were outside playing ball with the grandchildren when I remembered, so I ran in to see what time the visitation was, and I was too late. So Sorry!*

*Everyone that's known Sally will have special memories to share for many years to come. Her Special Family was so lucky to have her with them for sooo many years! Love, Hugs and Prayers to You All!*

*Cody Grinstead Kerby*

---

**Cody Kerby** - August 21, 2018 at 11:24 AM

NH

“ Dave Phyllis, Larry Connie, Kay and all other family members,

*Grandma Sally was such an inspiration to all who knew her. Each time I came to Iowa it was a must to see her before I returned home. I loved her humor and devotion to her Lord and Savior. Once one got to know her you will never forget her. Each family member was blessed to have had her as their Mother, Grandmother, or Great Grandmother. I saw her as a dear friend and she was an inspiration to me with each visit. You all have my sympathy and may God put his loving arms around you at this time of great loss yet you can rejoice she is now with her Lord.*

*Nancy L Huggins*

---

**Nancy L. Huggins** - August 19, 2018 at 12:04 AM

VF

“ Dave, Phyllis, Kay and all the family. I know you will miss your Mother and Grandmother. She was a very special lady that was blessed with a long life. She is enjoying being with Jesus now and you will see her again one day. Love, Bill & Virginia

---

**Virginia Falkner** - August 18, 2018 at 05:08 PM

LR

“ Hi. Thier. Kay. I. Am. Sorry. To. Hear. About Celia. Passing away my. Sympathy. To. You. And. The. Family. Lynn roberts

---

**lynn roberts** - August 18, 2018 at 11:39 AM

LR

“ Lynn Roberts lit a candle in memory of Celma "Sally" Birdsall



lynn roberts - August 18, 2018 at 11:36 AM



“ European Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Celma "Sally" Birdsall.



August 18, 2018 at 10:59 AM

LW

“ My earliest memory of Sally was her being the “post office lady”. As I grew up in Floris, I knew her as a kind gentle friend. She’s in one of our family pictures taken at the community hall. The last time I saw her she was walking in Floris with her walker. I was visiting from Arizona. I ran to her and hugged her. I broke down from happiness to see her as many years had past. I’m so glad in ran her down that day. Rest In Peace Sally❤️

Liz Reyes Williams

Liz Williams - August 18, 2018 at 08:35 AM

DP

“ on the back of every letter I got from when I was overseas in the army during the early 60s from home. There was a( hi Dennis. Sally) on the back of it.

dennis pearson - August 17, 2018 at 10:59 PM

ST

“ *The Beed and Troy family in Australia send love and have many great memories of Aunt Sally:*

---

**Shirley Troy** - August 17, 2018 at 10:52 PM

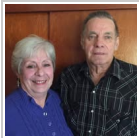
KM

“ *Sally was angel here on earth. Now flying high with the angels at the feet of Jesus. This family has always held Sally high as a wonderful friend and neighbor. Sending our love to all of the family. Every card we sent was returned with a hand written note. Going to miss her. But know she has enjoyed her long life on this earth with all of us.*

*Albert & Kathy McCall and family*

---

**Kathy McCall** - August 17, 2018 at 07:34 PM



“ *Sally was our neighbor for several years back in the '70's and '80's. Always so considerate and friendly to everyone. I remember that she walked every day just as regular as the day came and continued even when she had to use her walker. Always had time to stop and visit when she came through the yard to go to church. Never did I hear a cross word from Sally's mouth. She is/was a GREAT lady!! We always admired her...this old world truly did lose a lovely angel today.*

---

**Betty Covert** - August 17, 2018 at 06:33 PM

DH

“ My last contact with Sally was a thank you card for her Birthday Card, with a sweet message for us. She was dear to our hearts and will be sadly missed. I was so glad to get to see her and talk with her at the visitation. Our love to Kay and all the family. Dorothy and Russell Hopkins

Dorothy Hopkins - August 17, 2018 at 05:54 PM



“ Patricia Ann Blew lit a candle in memory of Celma "Sally" Birdsall



Patricia Ann Blew - August 17, 2018 at 05:43 PM

KB

“ The Bock clan will certainly miss Great Aunt Sally! She & I (Karen Bock Brake) always exchanged Christmas cards and always sent letters; as well. She always wanted to hear what was happening with Norma's kids and their families. I tried to keep her informed. She never missed any of the Bock kids weddings either! I will always remember her fondly as a gentle, sweet & grateful lady. She never complained while getting older. She would always say how "blessed" she was and always thanked God for her family. God gave her many years on this earth, but the Lord has opened the gates to Heaven for her now. The angels are rejoicing as she enters paradise. We wish the immediate family peace and comfort at this difficult time, and always remember to cherish those memories of Selma. So sorry that my family will not be able to attend, BUT our thoughts and prayers go before you!

Karen Brake - August 17, 2018 at 05:22 PM

DH

“ From time to time would ask her if she like a ride up the hill to church. Almost always said she rather just walk. Any time I seen her outside the house she always took the time to speak or comment how pretty the flowers are. Must be why she lived to the age she did as she always seen beauty in everything. Truly one remarkable lady. Going to Miss u Miss Salley. Dawn Harward

---

**Dawn Harward** - August 17, 2018 at 04:22 PM

JN

Sally is such a pleasant memory from the past. I got to see her just a couple of years ago. Interesting, in her "thank you" for her 110 birthday card, she looked forward to seeing us in a couple of years when we were back to Iowa to visit. Guess we'll have to wait until we meet again in heaven. God's peace and blessings to the family. Judy & Ed Neff

---

**Judy Neff** - August 18, 2018 at 12:50 PM

BD

“ My Dad was the Pulaski Postmaster (John Hartzler) and later the postmaster from Keosauqua, IA. My parents attended the Post Office conventions with Sally and they all had such a great time. Sadly, I believe Sally outlived everyone in the group but I know heaven is having lots of laughs now that she has rejoined the old group.

*My mother(Frances Hartzler) told me once that every time she sent a birthday card to Sally she would hand write a thank you back. When my mother died, she had wanted to make her special friends and family a little souvenir (hand knit wool pin cushion, so the pins wouldn't rust) to remember her and gave me a list of people to mail them out. Sally received one, and sure enough, I received a very nice hand written thank you. The hand writing was a little hard to read, but what a wonderful caring person to take the time to just say thank you. A simple gesture, but it meant something to be remembered. I don't think anyone will ever forget this fine woman. I believe we all need to learn to be thankful a little more often.*

*Barbara Hartzler Daubenmier  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa*

---

**Barbara Daubenmier** - August 17, 2018 at 02:41 PM