

## *The Violet*

*So delicate and fair a little bloom!  
O tiny flower and your sweet perfume.*

*Your bloom so modestly in leafy beds,  
So humble that you hardly lift your head.*

*The other flowers,  
none more fairer than thee  
are all dressed up for the world to see.*

*With colors fair they face the light of day;  
But you, with all your beauty, hideaway.*

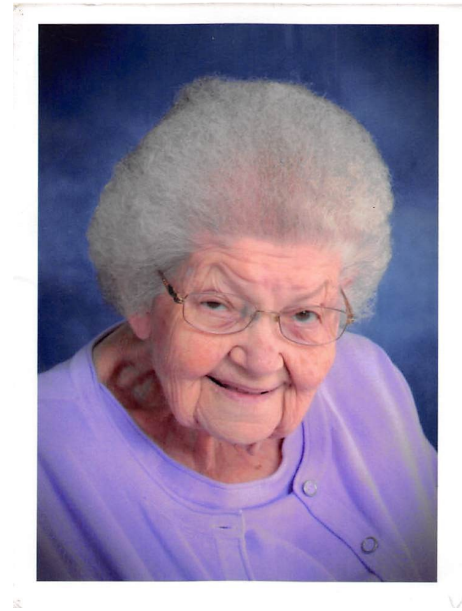
*But she, with loving fingers, sought to find  
Your tiny bloom,  
and thought your flower fine.*

*And so, at last, when came her final rest,  
You, little flower, nestled on her breast.*

*And that is why  
my fingers search your bed  
To seek your fragrant, tiny purple head;  
And wonder if its dew or tears that wet  
Your lovely petals, little violet.*



*Forever In Our Hearts  
Lillian (Marks) Gast*



*November 4, 1925 ~  
January 7, 2020*



Lillian (Marks) Gast, 94, of Dike, passed away on Tuesday, January 7, 2020 at UnityPoint Health-Allen Memorial Hospital in Waterloo, following a lengthy illness. The funeral service for Lillian will be held on Saturday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM at the Dike United Methodist Church in Dike with Pastor Dan Ridnour officiating. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service at the church. Interment will follow services at the Elmwood Cemetery in Dike. Memorials may be directed to the family.

Lillian was born on November 4, 1925, in Stout, Iowa, to her parents Luke & Henrietta (Bulhuis) Marks. She moved to Dike as a young girl. Lillian worked for many years as a waitress at the café in downtown Dike. She met Gale Gast and the two were united in marriage on June 28, 1944 at the Dike United Methodist Church Parsonage. The couple welcomed 4 children into their family.

Lillian worked mostly as a homemaker but also worked as her husband's secretary for his business, Gast Welding. In her later years, she worked as a custodian for the Dike Post Office.

Lillian was a member of the Dike United Methodist Church. In her spare time, she enjoyed ceramics, cooking, and baking. Lillian loved flowers and raised African Violets. Lillian especially enjoyed visiting with her friends and family and in her 94 years, leaves behind a large, beloved family, and many friends who will miss her dearly.

She is survived by her children Susan Bennett of Lanesboro, MN, Steven Gast of Dike and Shelly (Robert) Nelson, also of Lanesboro; grandchildren Jeff Bennett, Stacie Ford, Michelle Bennett, Jesse Nelson, Erik Nelson, Christopher Nelson and Aimee Rodger; 13 great-grandchildren, one on the way and 1 great-great grandson; sisters Ruby Danielson of Hampton, IA and Lorraine Nelson of Mountain Home, AR. Lillian was preceded in death by her parents; husband Gale; infant son Stanley; brother Edward Marks.

*In Loving Memory*  
***Lillian (Marks) Gast***

**Sunrise**

November 4, 1925

Stout, Iowa

**Sunset**

January 7, 2020

**Funeral Service**

Saturday, January 11, 2020

11:00 AM

Dike United Methodist Church

Dike, Iowa

**Officiating**

Pastor Dan Ridnour

**Organist**

Jean Loger

**Congregational Hymns**

“How Great Thou Art”

“The Lord's Prayer”

**Casket Bearers**

Jeff Bennett

Erik Nelson

Christopher Nelson

Collin Bennett

Byron Rodger

Jim Marks

**Honorary Casket Bearers**

Jesse Nelson

John Marks

Sean Bennett

**Interment**

Elmwood Cemetery

Dike, Iowa

Please join Lillian's family in the church Fellowship Hall following the committal service, for lunch and social hour with the family.