

# Obituaries 1993

## Ella Francis Thomas

Ella Francis, daughter of William and Gertrude Blackburn Mullins, was born March 17, 1923 at Falmouth, Kentucky. She received her education in Fayette, graduating from Fayette High School.

On September 17, 1942, she was united in marriage with Lawrence Thomas at the Presbyterian parsonage in Winthrop. After their marriage they lived in several towns across Northeast Iowa and lived in West Union since February of 1970. Ella was an avid bowler being a member of the same league for 32 years.

Following a lengthy illness, Ella's death occurred this past Sunday evening, January 17, 1993, at Lutheran Hospital in LaCrosse, Wisconsin. She was 69 years old and a member of the United Methodist Church in West Union and the American Legion Auxilliary.

She is survived by one son, Thomas of Ames; one daughter Ellen Meier of Mason City; one sister, Esther, Mrs. Joseph Wright of Miami, Florida and two brothers, Russell Mullins of Westgate and Robert Dale Mullins of Oelwein.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Lawrence "Shorty" on November 9, 1990; her parents; two sisters, Jean Freeman and Mae Spatcher and two brothers, Harold and Earl Mullins.

Funeral services will be 11:00 a.m. Thursday at the United Methodist Church in West Union. Interment at Grandview Cemetery in Fayette.

## Lawrence Thomas interred Tuesday 1990

Lawrence (Shorty) Thomas, 75, West Union, funeral services were held Tuesday, Nov. 13 at United Methodist Church, West Union, at 2 p.m. Interment was at Grandview Cemetery, Fayette. Becker-Milnes Funeral Home, Fayette was in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Thomas died Friday, Nov. 9 at his home following a lengthy illness.

He worked for 32 years at Interstate Power Company as a lineman. He retired in 1977.

He is survived by his wife, Ella; one son, Thomas, Ames; one daughter, Ellen Meier, Mason City; two brothers, Bill, Eugene, Ore., and Don, Heron, S.D.; one sister, Beverly Zuercher, Vancouver, Wa.; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, three sisters and three brothers.

L. G. Thomas 14

# ANNOUNCE ENGAGEMENT



Mr. and Mrs. L. G. Thomas of West Union wish to announce the engagement of their daughter, Ellen Jean, to Allan James Meier, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Meier of Elma.

The bride-elect is employed as a Nursing Assistant at St. Joseph's Community Hospital in New Hampton. The bridegroom is employed at Lyur Engineers Inc. of New Hampton. No wedding date has been set.

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Lawrence Thomas 1977  
32 years with Interstate

Lawrence Thomas, Lineman for Interstate Power Company in West Union, will retire Aug. 1st after 32 years of service with the company. Mr. Thomas started his career in Fayette in 1945, and moved to West Union in the fall of 1969. Mr. Thomas and his wife, Ella, reside at 213 Adams street. They are the parents of two children, Mrs. Allan Meier, New Hampton, and Tom, Ames.

## Funeral services Friday for Mrs. Mary Thomas

Final rites are set for Friday, Nov. 1, at 1:30 p.m. in Belles-Wright Funeral home in Fayette for Mrs. Glen (Mary Thomas, 80, who died Tuesday, Oct. 29, in Robert Nursing Home in Waterloo, where she had resided for the past three weeks. Rev. James Dale, pastor of United Methodist church in Fayette, will officiate. Interment will be in the Grandview cemetery in Fayette.

Born in New York State in Dec. 12, 1893, she had resided in the Fayette area most of her life. She was preceded in death by her husband and five children. Survivors include three sons, L. G. "Shorty"

1974  
Thomas, West Union; W. A. "Bill" Thomas, Eugene, Ore., and Don Thomas, Sioux Falls, S. Dak., and two daughters, Mrs. Ruth Hansen, Waterloo, and Mrs. Beverly Clancy, Vancouver, Wash.

1974



Ella Thomas, West Union  
2-27-79 - \$200

"Shorty  
Lawrence  
Thomas

Fayette

Don Thomas 32

# Pilot's Body <sup>49</sup> Is Returned

FAYETTE (Special) — Mr. and Mrs. Glen Thomas have received notice that the remains of their son, Flight Officer Ralph A. Thomas, will arrive Thursday, at 10:30 a. m. Services will be held at Belles funeral home at 2:00 p. m. that same afternoon, with burial in Grandview cemetery.

Flight Officer Thomas, son of Mr. and Mrs. Glen Thomas, was killed in action on April 4, 1945, over Germany. He entered service Mar. 5, 1943, and went overseas in January, 1945. He served as co-pilot on a B-17. His crew was awarded the oak leaf cluster, for meritorious service in flights over Germany.

He was married on April 14, 1944, to Mildred Dell, Lansing, Mich. Born in Fayette on Jan. 13, 1922, he was graduated from the local high school in 1939.

After high school, he traveled for over two years with the Dale Mullen magazine crew in the western states. He received basic training at Jefferson Barracks, Mo., the University of Michigan, and received his wings at Stockton, Cal.

Advanced training was taken at Bakersfield, Cal., Yuma, Ariz. and Tampa, Fla.

He is survived by his parents of Fayette; his wife and one daughter, Gwendolyn, of California; four brothers, Lawrence, Fayette, William, Climath Falls, Ore., Raymond, Winthrop, and Donald, Fayette, and two sisters, Mrs. Finis Brandenburg, Arlington and Beverly, Fayette.

# Body of R. Thomas Being Shipped Home

FAYETTE (Special) — The body of Flight Officer Ralph A. Thomas, son of Mr. and Mrs. Glen Thomas, is enroute here and will probably arrive within the next two weeks, it was learned recently.

Thomas was killed April 4, 1945, in a flight over Germany. One of his friends on that flight, Lt. James D. Taylor, Bowling Green, Ky., is expected to be at the re-burial.

# Judy Rima, Donald E. Thomas Repeat Wedding Vows <sup>4/14/45</sup>

Former residents of Fayette were married Easter Sunday at the Little Brown Church at Nashua with the Rev. Utterback officiating.

Mrs. Thomas is the former Judy Rima, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Chester Rima, Sioux Falls, S. D. The bridegroom A/3c Donald E. Thomas is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Glen Thomas, Fayette.

Maid of honor was Margene Growewald, Sioux Falls, and Pfc. Wilford Weyant, Fort Sill, Okla., served as best man.

Wedding music was provided by Mrs. Monti Fay who sang "Because."

A reception was held in the church parlors with the ladies of the church serving. Judy Dahl, of Fayette was in charge of the guest book and Sharon McGee, cousin of the bride, Manchester, was in charge of the gifts.

Mrs. Thomas is a graduate of Washington high school at Sioux Falls. The bridegroom was graduated from Fayette high school and will be stationed at Larson Air Force Base in Washigton.

# Newlyweds At Home In Sumner

Lillian, oldest child of Mr. and Mrs. Glen Thomas, died Wednesday. Lillian was about ten years old, and had been ill for some time. The funeral services were held from the home Friday afternoon, Jan. 28. Her classmate, her teacher and Superintendent Garrison attended in a body. Sympathy is extended to the family. This is their second bereavement in less than two weeks, as their baby son born Jan. 4 was buried Tuesday, Jan. 18.

Fayette  
2/2/19 21



MR. AND MRS. ALLAN JAMES MEIER are living in New Hampton where he is with the Lyner Engineering Company. Mrs. Meier is the former Ellen Jean Thomas, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. G. Thomas, West Union. She has been employed at St. Joseph Hospital in New Hampton. The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Meier, Elma. (Larry's Photography, New Hampton)