JEAN M. TIMMONS OBITUARY

Jean M. Timmons passed away peacefully with her loving family by her side on August 22, 2014 at the Brethern Care Village in Ashland, Ohio. Jean first saw the light of day on October 21, 1928 in Chardon, Ohio. Born as the only child to parents Floyd and Marie (Hurlebaus) Miller. Jean’s first day of school was second grade. After graduating from Chardon High School, she spent two years at Hiram College before transferring to Ohio State where she graduated in 1949. On July 16, 1949 she married Sterling Timmons and began a long life of a wife, mother, and partner in the family farm. Her contributions included accountant, calf feeder, maple syrup producer and sales person, county fair show day support, egg delivery, and occasional tractor driver while managing a household that included three meals a day for the farm crew, some of whom lived in the house, all while raising a family along the way.

Jean was a tireless supporter of agriculture, dairy products, and the Holstein cow. She was an accomplished writer and put her skills to use writing a weekly column that appeared in the Meadow Mart for many years, as well as her regular column, The Mistress Muses that appeared in the Ohio Holstein News. If the opportunity presented itself, she could write a scathing letter to the editor or a letter of praise, if appropriate. She had very little tolerance when agriculture was not properly presented in the media and was often contacted by Cleveland reporters for her input.

Jean served for many years as a 4-H advisor, taught adult education home economics classes to low income families, taught Sunday school at the Auburn Community Church and was editor of the church newsletter. She and Sterling sang in the church choir, were active in Farm Bureau and enjoyed time spent with their council friends. She is a past president of the Ohio Holstein Women’s Association where she served on numerous committees. In 2000, Jean and Sterling were inducted together into the Geauga County Maple Syrup Hall of Fame.

In 1989, facing the prospect of a new highway being constructed through the farm, Jean and Sterling, along with the then farm partners, son Terry and son-in-law Bob Fenton, pulled up stakes and left their beloved Geauga County and relocated the family and farm to Loudonville, in the rolling hills of Ashland County, Ohio. Jean served as Information Coordinator for Ashland County, was active in the Mohican Historical Society and Loudonville Progress Club. They joined the Loudonville Presbyterian Church where Jean became editor of the church newsletter. In 1997 she was recognized as an “Outstanding Woman in Ohio Agriculture”. In 2013 Jean withdrew as a partner in the farm. Her son Terry carries on the farm today where he still operates under the name of Sterlinglen Farms, runs 700 acres and milks 90 head of registered Holstein cows.

Jean will be sadly missed by her children: Dann (Cathy) Timmons of Garrettsville, Terry (Susan) Timmons of Loudonville, and Polly (Bob) Fenton of Loudonville as well as grandchildren: Casey Timmons, Jason (Jess) Timmons, Adam (Maggie) Timmons, Bailey Jean (Clinton Watters) Timmons, Ryley (Jennifer) Fenton, Tyler (Serena) Fenton, Megan (Josh Hendershot) Timmons, and Ian Timmons, and 12 great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Sterling who died in 2007, and her son, Tommy who died in a farm accident in 1952. Funeral services will be held Tuesday morning, August 26 at 10:30 AM in First Presbyterian Church, Loudonville with Pastor Kathleen Walkerow officiating. Jean will be laid to rest alongside Sterling and Tommy in the Evergreen Hill Cemetery in Chagrin Falls, Ohio at a private ceremony. Friends may call from 2-4 and 6-8 PM on Monday, August 25th in the Lindsey Funeral Home, Loudonville. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in Jean’s memory to the Heifer Foundation, One World Avenue, PO Box 727, Little Rock, AR 72203.