



A lasting memorial has been given to
Spirit of Hope Church
in memory of
Alvin and Sophie Ducommun
Devoted Lifetime Methodists
Vicky Gries' Mother and Father

Alvin Henry Ducommun 1912 - 2005

Sophie Margaret Steimke Ducommun 1916 - 2009

Alvin and Sophie Ducommun were the parents of Vicky Jo (Ducommun Gries) who, along with her husband, Gerry Gries, have been members of Spirit of Hope for 44 years. Vicky's parents enjoyed attending SOH with them and especially enjoyed the music.

Alvin and Sophie were married January 30, 1938, at Larrabee, Iowa, where they farmed until Alvin's retirement in 1978. At this time they built a home in Cherokee, Iowa, and Vicky's brother Jim moved to the farm with his wife Judy and sons. The family still runs the farm, which became a Century Farm in 2008. This was one of Sophie's greatest thrills and accomplishments. She was born on this farm and saw great changes in how rural America changed and grew with all the new inventions, from horses, to tractors, to "cab tractors," and more.

Alvin and Sophie were members at Larrabee Methodist Church for their entire married life. Alvin served on the Larrabee School Board and the Larrabee Co-op Elevator Board, as well as many church positions. Alvin had a great passion for horses, and his collection grew from their many travels. Sophie was a member of Larrabee UMW and Circle, especially enjoying attending district meetings. Each member of her family cherishes the afghans she crocheted for them.



Family and friends were very important to them. Babies, children, youth, and young adults knew them well. They were still attending high school basketball games at age 90, and hundreds of people in Cherokee County knew who Alvin and Sophie were.

