

According to the article, "After the dolls are dressed, Theis positions them in a variety of settlings. For instance, the Apple Annie she entered in the contest is setting in a chair holding a basket of miniature apples. Other apple dolls have been set on front p spinning wheels, in rocking chairs, or, in one case, as a couple holding hands."

lone served her community in leadership for the Girl Scouts and later for the Shakopee Senior Citizens Club. Ione was an active member of St. Mark's Catholic Church for many years - music was a passion and she participated in the church choir as well as a local women's choral group the *Harmonettes* later named New Jubilee Singers. With this group, she performed at the Chanhassen Dinner Theater and traveled abroad twice. A highlight was to sing mass at the Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, and the Alleluia in Saint Peter's Basilica in Rome. Joy Robbins recalled that lone was a "friend to me through many years in and out of Harmonettes and New Jubilee Singers, and I appreciated her honesty, exuberance, good cheer, kind heart, clear eye, steadfast support, wise advice, and STYLE! A beautiful lady and person, lone loved a good time and has probably already established a heavenly 'Hat, prop, and wine' wall in case there's a need for costumes and a bit of frivolity!"



Rose Doherty recalled the time lone moved to All Saints in 2014. She was "always willing to join in activities she played cards, Farkle, Wii Bowling, created greeting cards and always won first place at costume parties. Once she dressed up as a limping vagrant with whiskers, old hat and sagging trousers. No one recognized her and only after getting really close, face to face, did anyone realize it was lone!"

Ione Anne Engel Theis died on November 28, 2016 at All Saints Senior Living Facility. A Mass of Christian Burial happened on Friday, December 16 at The Parish of Saints Joachim and Anne (St. Mark), and she was interment was at the Shakopee Catholic Cemetery.

"What an incredible lady. She had such a bright mind, with so many wonderful talents that she lovingly shared with others. I loved her little smile, her gracious ways and her spunk!" said Dixie Schmit.



SHAKOPEE HERITAGE SOCIETY 2109 Boulder Pointe, Shakopee, MN 55379

> 952-693-3865 shakopeeheritage.org



## SHAKOPEE HERITAGE SOCIETY

## lone Anne Krell Engel Theis 1917-2016

Compiled and written by David R. Schleper, Shakopee Heritage Society © 2023



Ione Anne Krell was born July 16th, 1917 on a homestead near White Lake, South Dakota to Nicolum Nick Frank Krell (1877-1963) and Anna Gardner Krell (1882-1956) – the seventh of eight children.

Ione came to Minneapolis to study cosmetology and arrived in Shakopee in 1938 employed at the Modern Beauty Shop.

In 1945 Ione married William A. Engel. William (Bill) was born in May 26, 1888 in Shakopee, son of Dominick Engel (1849-1919) and Elizabeth Channaux (1858-1941.) Bill's first marriage was with Agnes Demers (1891-1940) in 1910. Bill married Ione in 1945, and together they operated Engel's Bar at what now is the site of Turtle's on First Avenue and Lewis Street.

After Bill's death in 1955, Ione and daughter Barbara remained in Shakopee. In 1957 Ione married John A. Theis. John Alois Theis was born on June 6, 1913 in Marystown, son of Charles Carl Theis (1866-1930) and Mary Caroline Pieper (1870-1943.). John's fist marriage was with Mary Adele Simones (1916-1955.).

lone and John's son, Theodore Ted John Theis was born in 1958.



Ione Anne Krell Engel Theis (1917-2016); Anna Martie Gardner (1882-19560 and Nico.um Nick Frank Krell (1877-1963), Ione's parents; Adolph Gaerther (1844-1913) and Ernestinaa Laupitz (1851-1903), Ione's maternal grandparents.

Ione Anne Krell Engel Theis was a caring and generous mother, and grandmother to many step grandchildren. Ione enjoyed all forms of artistic endeavor – painting, sculpting, sewing, needlework.

In 1992, lone placed second at the state Senior Dining Applemania Contest in Duluth, according to an article by Susan Vieth at the **Shakopee Valley News**, November 19, 1992 titled "Apple Annie' is a winner for Theis."

lone took a dried apple worth a whimsical face for its head, and a wired body dressed with clothes that she designed and sewed herself. She entered it at the Shakopee Senior Dining site. At that time last 200 Levee Drive in Shakopee. After it won, it placed first in the region wide contest, and then finally second in the state.

Ione Anne Krell Engel Theis had been making the dolls for 20 years. In the article in the **Shakopee Valley News**. "We had a lot of apple trees in our backyard. So I used those. I found that Golden Delicious make good apple heads, but I've used all kinds." The apples are allowed to dry for about a moth,. During the process, the skin of the apple puckers and kales what appears to be a wrinkled face. Ione sews the clothes, such as bloomers, skirts, and dust caps for women, or a suit and hat for a man.





On the left is a picture of Ione Anne Krell Engel Theis and Rosella Dressen Ries in front of the Modern Beauty Shop in 1944. Ione remembered "As a recent graduate of the Brady and Rogers School of Beauty, I arrived at the Modern Beauty Shop in the late 1930's and trained in the methods of the time." On the right is the Apple Annie doll, which Ione won second prize in a statewide contest in 1992.