

THE LIFE STORY OF --

Ethel M. Ahrenholtz, 69

Defiance - Ethel Marie Ahrenholtz, daughter of Albert and Alice Monkman Smith, was born on a farm near Buck Grove in Crawford county, on Aug. 13, 1910. She was baptized at the Defiance Christian church. She attended country school and grew to adulthood on her parent's farm near Buck Grove except for a short time spent in So. Dak.

On Nov. 28, 1929, she married Edwin Ahrenholtz at his home place south of Defiance. Six children were born to this union. They made their home on a farm near Defiance until 1941 when they moved to a farm near Manilla. They retired from farming in 1966 and moved to Defiance. This has been their home since that time. They were privileged to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary last Nov. Ethel was very talented with hand work and after retiring from farming worked as a seamstress. She had a deep concern for others and was always willing to lend a helping hand.

Mrs. Ahrenholtz died at Crawford County hospital in Denison, on Tuesday April 8, 1980, at age 69 years, 7 months and 25 days. She had been a long time member of the United Methodist church and United Methodist Women in Defiance.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her step-father; an infant daughter, Hazel Mae; and two brothers - Vernon H. Smith and Everette Smith in infancy. Survivors include her husband, Edwin, of Defiance; two sons - Lyle Ahrenholtz of Omaha and Kenneth Ahrenholtz of Manilla; three daughters - Marcille (Mrs. Wilton) Swires of Salem, Ark., Vera (Mrs. Myron) Kempton of Red Oak, and Elaine (Mrs. Glen) Higgins of Omaha; 15 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren, by a sister, Marvel (Mrs. Clarence) Winterstein of Bemidji, Minn.; a half-sister, Adeline (Mrs. Carl) Carder of Sunrise Beach, Miss.; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held at United Methodist church in Defiance on Friday, April 11, 1980, with Rev. Leon V. Wallace, officiating. Burial was in the Union twp cemetery, Defiance, with Marvin Kempton as Honorary casketbearer and Mark Kempton, Daniel Swires, Richard Higgins, Russell Higgins, Michael Kempton, and Kevin Ahrenholtz, all grandsons of Mrs. Ahrenholtz, serving as casketbearers.

Pauley Funeral Home in Harlan was in charge of the services.