

Margretha Madsen, 81

Harlan — Margretha Madsen, daughter of Niels and Albertine Oleson was born in Rakkeby, Denmark, on May 24, 1896. She attended school and grew to adulthood in Denmark. She came to the U.S. in Nov. of 1917 and settled in Avoca. On Aug. 29, 1920, she married Peter Jorgen Madsen at the Congregational church in Harlan. Four children were born to this union.

After their marriage, Mr and Mrs Madsen farmed near Avoca until 1937 when they moved into Harlan. After Peter's death in May of 1964, Margretha continued to make her home in Harlan until becoming a resident of the Salem Lutheran Home in Elk Horn in 1971. This has been her home since that time. It was here that she died on May 17, 1978, just seven days before her 82nd birthday. Mrs Madsen was a member of the Immanuel Lutheran church in Harlan.

In addition to her parents and her husband, she was preceded in death by two brothers, Niels and Walter; and by two sisters, Anna and Marie. Her survivors include a son, Raymond Madsen of Nebraska City, Nebr.; three daughters - Harriet (Mrs Gerald Goshorn) of Jerico Springs, Mo., Evelyn (Mrs Wilfred Jensen) of Kimballton and Frances (Mrs Harold Ahrenholtz) of Wheat Ridge, Colo.; 16 grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; a sister, Katrina (Mrs Soren Pedersen) of Plymouth, Mich.; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held at Pauley Funeral Home in Harlan on Friday, May 19, 1978, with Pastor J. Harry Thomsen, Chaplain of the Salem Lutheran Home in Elk Horn, officiating. Burial was in the Harlan cemetery, with Alan Jensen, Bill Goshorn, Randall Jensen, Richard Jensen, Bruce Ahrenholtz and Larry Ahrenholtz, all grandsons of Mrs Madsen, serving as casketbearers.
