

Valeria M. Erlbacher, 95

Aug. 23, 1904 - Dec. 28, 1999

EARLING - Valeria Mary Erlbacher, daughter of Robert and Theresa (Schneider) Koesters, was born Aug. 23, 1904, on a farm near Earling. She was baptized and confirmed at St. Joseph's Catholic Church and attended school at St. Joseph's Catholic School both in Earling.

Sept. 27, 1927, she married Leonard J. Erlbacher, Jr. at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling. Six children were born to this union, Mildred, Grace, Joanne, Donald, Richard and Bill. After the death of her husband in 1969, she continued to live on the farm until 1973, when she moved in to Earling. She was a member of the Altar Society of St. Joseph's Church and also she had been a member of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court St. Katherine No. 266 of Earling since 1953. She became a resident of the Little Flower Haven and died there Dec. 28, 1999, at age 95 years, four months and five days.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Leonard; a grandson, Chad; her brothers and sisters, Gabriella, Norbert, Richard, Nettie, Frank, and Art; and son-in-law, Owen Heese. Survivors include her children, Mick (Al) Graeve of Earling; Grace Heese of Earling; Joanne (Dennis) Kohles of Earling; Don Erlbacher (Mary) of Omaha, NE; Richard Erlbacher (Pam) of Earling; Bill Erlbacher (Joanie) of Earling; 30 grandchildren; 50 great grandchildren; two foster grandchildren; brother and sister, Louis Koesters (Josephine) of Earling and Betty (Jim) Blum of Earling; two sisters-in-law, Lois Koesters of Earling and Regina Koesters of Earling; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Dec. 30, 1999, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling, with Rev. Michael Berner celebrant and Msgr. Gerald Stessman and Rev. Cornelius Gaul concelebrating. Burial was in St. Joseph's Cemetery with Allen Graeve, Mike Graeve, Terry Kohles, Pat Erlbacher, Dan Erlbacher, Dave Erlbacher, Eric Graeve, Doug Graeve, Glenn Kohles and Shawn Erlbacher honorary casket bearers. Casket bearers were Bill Heese, Steve Erlbacher, Dave Kohles, Mike Erlbacher, Craig Graeve and Tony Cavanaugh. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

