

Mary Barbara Smith, 75

Sept. 28, 1923 - Oct. 17, 1998

IRWIN - Mary Barbara Smith, daughter of Fred and Cecelia (Funk) Bruck, was born Sept. 28, 1923, in Earling. She was baptized and confirmed at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling, and attended St. Joseph's Catholic School and grew to adulthood at the family farm.

April 6, 1948, she married John M. Smith at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling. To this union four sons and three daughters were born. She was a farm wife, a homemaker and a mother. Her family farmed near Portsmouth, Earling and Irwin. They retired in January, 1986 and after the death of her husband, she continued to make her home in Irwin. She was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling until 1954. Then they moved to Irwin and became a member of St. Peter's Parish in Defiance. She attended Shelby County Fair for 40 years. She died at Myrtue Memorial Hospital Oct. 17, 1998, at age 75 years and 19 days.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, John; a brother, Tony Bruck, and one infant brother. Survivors include her four sons, Bob Smith (Kay) of Irwin; Michael Smith (Lyla) of Irwin; William Smith (Sue) of Harlan; and John Smith (Tegwyn) of West Des Moines; three daughters, Patricia (Keith) Schwieso of Defiance; Mary Lou Smith of Harlan; Shirley (Kevin) McConnell of Manilla; 18 grandchildren; two great grandchildren; her brother, Andrew Bruck (Mildred) of Earling and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was concelebrated Oct. 20, 1998, at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance with Rev. Joseph L. Brown C.P.P.S. celebrant and Rev. Donald Bruck concelebrating. Burial was in Sts. Peter & Paul Cemetery in Defiance, with Sarah Smith, Carley McConnell, Garth Smith, Tanner Smith, Casey McConnell, Braden Smith, Keri Schwieso, Ethan McConnell, Heather Schwieso and Michelle Klocke honorary casket bearers. Casket bearers were Mark Smith, Chris Schwieso, Andy Smith, Keith Smith, Bob Smith, Jr., Allen Smith, Travis Smith and Jeremy Smith. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

