

Helena A. Sondag, 98

Dec. 12, 1899 - Feb. 13, 1998



WEST DES MOINES - Helena Amanda Sondag, daughter of John and Kate (Wiwerding) Peterson, was born Dec. 12, 1899, in Mondamin. She was raised in Portsmouth, and attended school at St. Mary's. She was baptized and confirmed in the Catholic church.

Aug. 14, 1919, she married Theodore Nicholas Sondag at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Portsmouth. Five children were born to this union, William, Mary, John, Joyce and Edward. After marriage, they farmed for several years in the Shelby County area before moving to Idaho for a few years. In 1953, they moved to the Des Moines area. While a resident of the Des Moines area, Helena was employed at Yonkers and a Sorority of Drake University. She was also a member of St. Theresa's Catholic Church. After the death of her husband January 22, 1966, she made her home with her daughter. In 1989, she became a resident of the Fountain West Health Nursing Home in West Des Moines, where she died Feb. 13, 1998, at age 98 years, two months and one day.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by two sons, Phillip and Edward; her brothers and sisters, Marie, Henry, Jack, Elizabeth and Mathilda; two grandchildren, Nancy and Frederick. Survivors include her children, William (Joyce) Sondag of Bellevue, NE; Sister Mary Severina of Milwaukee, WI; John (Rose) Sondag of Irwin; Joyce Sondag of Des Moines; 14 grandchildren; 12 great grandchildren and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Feb. 16, 1998, at St. Mary Our Lady of the Fatima Catholic Church in Portsmouth with Rev. Mike Peters celebrant. Burial was in St. Mary's Cemetery in Portsmouth, with Avid Fields, Jeffrey Sondag, Tom Sondag, Tony Sondag, Patrick Sondag and Kevin Sondag casket bearers. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.