

Marie T. Stolz, 81

Aug. 7, 1917 - June 20, 1999

HARLAN – Marie Theresa Stolz, daughter of John and Rose (Wilwerding) Erlbacher, was born Aug. 7, 1917, at Earling. She was baptized and confirmed at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling, and attended school in Earling.

She married Merrill Stolz, Sr. March 29, 1937, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling. Nine children were born to this union, Eugene, Charlene, Jo Ann, Merrill Jr., Gary, Joe, Diane, Dewayne and Mary Jane. After their marriage they farmed near Defiance until their retirement. They moved to Harlan in 1987, where they made their home. She served on the Altar Society at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance, and was a member of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas St. Katherine's Court No. 266 of Earling. She died June 20, 1999, at her home in Harlan, at age 81 years, ten months and 13 days.

In addition to her parents, Marie was preceded in death by her brothers, Elmer and Laverne Erlbacher, and a sister, Pat Malone. Survivors include her husband, Merrill of Harlan; her children, Eugene Stolz (Bernice) of Omaha; Charlene (Russell) Morfeld of Omaha; Jo Ann (Wes) Walker of Defiance; Merrill Stolz, Jr. (Elaine) of Henderson, NV; Gary Stolz (Arlene) of Alpine, CA; Joe Stolz (Julie) of Omaha; Diane (Dick) Mulligan of Defiance; Dewayne Stolz (Marie) of Portsmouth; Mary Jane (Cletus) Gubbels of Harlan; 15 grandchildren, 15 great grandchildren; her brothers and sisters, Leonard Erlbacher (Lena) of Earling; Jake Erlbacher (Irene) of Harlan; Irene Kenkel of Harlan; Johnnie Erlbacher of Earling; Rita Briggs of Audubon; Ella Mae (Darrell) Darnell of Elgin, IL; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated June 23, 1999, at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Harlan, with Rev. Howard Fitzgerald celebrant and Rev. Wayne Gubbels, Rev. Larry Beesen, Rev. Mike Peters, Rev. Fred Reischl, Msgr. Edward Kelly concelebrants and Rev. Mr. Pat Davitt assisting. Burial was in Sts. Peter & Paul Cemetery in Defiance, with Gary Stolz, Merrill Stolz, Jr., Joseph Stolz, Dewayne Stolz, Dennis Stolz, Rick Mulligan and Andy Mulligan casket bearers. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

