

Letha Abel, 77

March 22, 1925 - Oct. 15, 2002

AVOCA - Letha Mae Abel was born March 22, 1925, in Manilla, the daughter of L.L. and Blanche Nellis Cadwell, and was one of seven children in the Cadwell family. Letha attended school at Manilla where she graduated with the class of 1942.

She married Paul Abel April 10, 1945, in Hiawatha, KS. They were the parents of five children, Lyle, Leslie, Sonya, Jodie and Becky. She was a homemaker and taught school for a short time. She was a member of the Walnut AmVets Auxilliary and the Walnut Presbyterian Church. She died at Creighton Medical Center in Omaha, NE, Oct. 15, 2002, at age 77 years, six months and 23 days.

Letha was preceded in death by her parents and two brothers, Robert and Ray Cadwell. She is survived by her husband, Paul of Avoca; her sons, Lyle Abel of Tumwater, WA and Leslie Abel (Terri) of Walnut; her daughters, Sonya (Larry) Schuler of Mame; Jodie (Mark) Knudsen of Atlantic; Becky (Dave) Thielen of Elkhorn, NE; 11 grandchildren, Paul Abel (Christi); Mathew, Gavin and Derek Abel; Eric and Joshua Abel; Heather (Brett) Cox; Dustin Van Horn; Christopher, Nicholas and Michaela Knudsen; three great grandchildren, Justice Abel; Dillion and Carter Cox; one sister, Edith Weible of Elk Horn; three brothers, Ross Cadwell (Evelyn) of Denison; Hal Cadwell (Darlene) of Manning; and Vryl Cadwell (Edith) of Manilla; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Oct. 18, 2002, at the Walnut Presbyterian Church with Pastor Craig zumBrunnen officiating. Burial was in the Southlawn Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Atlantic. Honorary casket bearers were Justice Abel, Carter Cox and Dillion Cox. Casket bearers were Paul Abel, Heather Cox, Gavin Abel, Joshua Abel, Michaela Knudsen, Christopher Knudsen, Eric Abel, Mathew Abel, Dustin Van Horn, Derek Abel and Nicholas Knudsen. Knutson Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.