

Florence Behrens, 85

Dec. 19, 1921 - Sept. 24, 2007

HARLAN - Florence Behrens was born Dec. 19, 1921, to Henry and Marie (Christensen) Larsen on the family farm in Jackson Township, Shelby County. She was baptized and confirmed at Bethlehem Lutheran Church near Jacksonville. She attended school in Jackson Township #4.

Jan. 11, 1939, she married Orvis Behrens. Six children were born to this union: Richard, Keith, Betty, Lyle, David, and Peggy. In March of 1940, they moved their family to a farm in Jackson Township and farmed there until 1976. At that time, the family moved to their son, Lyle's acreage in Center Township. Florence and Orvis moved to their house on the lake in Okoboji in April of 1993 after Florence retired from her job of 22 years at Variety Distributors in Harlan. This was their home until 2003, when they decided to move back to Harlan. She remained a member of the Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Jacksonville. She died Sept. 24, 2007, at Myrtue Medical Center at age 85 years, nine months, and five days.

Florence was preceded in death by her parents; her son, Keith Behrens; her brothers, Leonard and Ivan Larsen; and her sister, Leona Jensen of Alexandria, MN. She is survived by her husband, Orvis Behrens of Elk Horn; her sons, Richard Behrens (Maudie) of Kingman, AZ; Lyle Behrens (Connie) of Jacksonville; and David Behrens (Hattie) of Harlan; her daughters, Betty Jacob of Bellevue, NE; and Peggy (William) Fewell of Lake View; 12 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; nieces and nephews; and other relatives.

A funeral service was held Sept. 28, 2007, at the Elk Horn Lutheran Church with Pastor Ron Rasmussen officiating. Casket bearers were Stanley Behrens, Dave Meinershagen, Donald Behrens, Anthony Behrens, Rod Owens, and James Behrens. Burial was held at the Jacksonville Cemetery. Pauley Jones Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

