

Leona Bissen, 77

Sept. 9, 1932 - Oct. 31, 2009

CLARINDA — Leona Mary Bissen was born September 9, 1932 in Defiance, the daughter of Frank and Cecelia (Schechinger) Kramer Sr. She was baptized and confirmed at the St. Peters Catholic Church in Defiance. Leona grew up in Defiance and graduated from St. Paul's Catholic School.

Leona was united in marriage on January 25, 1954 to Joseph M. Bissen at the St. Peter's Catholic Church. To this union seven children were blessed to the couple. They began their life together farming in Dunlap and then later farmed in Charter Oak. After retiring from farming they moved



to Earling where they owned and operated the Hi-way Café. In 1974 they moved to Clarinda. Leona worked for the Clarinda Treatment Center in the custodial department for 18 years until her retirement. She had many joys and hobbies such as bingo, baking, quilting and gardening. Playing cards with her children and grandchildren was her favorite. Leona passed on Friday, October 31, 2009 at Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha.

Leona was preceded in death by her parents; brothers Francis Jr., Raymond, Lawrence; Gerald, James, Anthony, Victor and Norbert Kramer; sisters Delores Fuhs, Patricia and Cecilia Kramer. She is survived by her husband Joe; five daughters Connie Carrico and husband Larry of Murray, Kathy Hammes of Clarinda, Barb Volker of Plano, TX, Janice Milleson and husband Scott of Stanton, and Patty Handley and husband Tom of Cypress, TX; two sons Joseph Jr. and wife Karrie of Warrensburg, MO and Bobby Bissen of San Antonio, TX; sixteen grandchildren Julie Foote and husband Shane, Jason Norton and wife Jenny, Jim Norton and wife Brandi, Tanya Turner, Alana Carrico, Mike Hammes, Robert Hammes and wife Sarah, Amy Volker, Shannon Volker, Nicholas Bissen, Benjamin Bissen, Matthew Bissen, Zach Milleson, Lance Bissen, Derek Handley and Shae Handley; 10 great-grandchildren; sisters Irene Friesen of Council Bluffs, Lillian Schaben of Harlan, Rita Klocke of Cascade, Theresa Grote of Portsmouth, Mary and Francis Heese of Earling; sister-in-law Marlene Kramer of Omaha; many nieces, nephews and other relatives and friends.

Mass of Christian Burial was held Tuesday, November 3, 2009 at St. Clare Catholic Church in Clarinda, with Father Joy officiating. Interment was at the Clarinda Cemetery. A memorial fund is being established.

Eickemeyer Funeral Chapel

400 W. Glenn Miller Dr.
P.O. Box 11
Clarinda, IA 51632
712-542-4200
Email: chapel@efc.cc