

Joanne Dresen, 70

May 6, 1933 - March 2, 2004

EARLING – Joanne Yvonne Dresen, the daughter of Maurice and Alice Finnegan Sullivan, was born May 6, 1933, on a farm in Dunlap. She was baptized and confirmed at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Dunlap. Joanne attended school at Dunlap and was a member of the graduating class of 1951. After graduating, she went to work at Boys Town as a secretary. It was then that she met Marcus Dresen.

May 15, 1954, Joanne married Marcus Dresen at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Dunlap. Eight children were born to this union, Sandra, Michael, David, Steven, Lori, Kevin, Christopher and Jennifer. Joanne worked at Finken's Store in Earling and Dubuque Packing for some time. Joanne was later employed at Communications Data Services in Harlan, retiring in December of 2002. She was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling, St. Joseph's Altar Society and the Earling Quilters. Joanne died March 2, 2004, at Myrtue Memorial Hospital at age 70 years, nine months and 27 days.

In addition to her parents, Joanne was preceded in death by her husband, Marcus; her brother, Pat Sullivan; and sister, Rita Heffernan. Survivors include her children, Sandra (Don) Rohe of Carroll; Michael Dresen (Julie) of Earling; David Dresen of Earling; Steven Dresen (Kim) of Harlan; Lori Dresen of Omaha, NE; Kevin Dresen of Earling; Christopher Dresen (Connie) of Polk City; Jennifer Schaben of Earling; 17 grandchildren; her sisters and brother, Mary Alice (Fritz) Baldwin of Dunlap; Lorraine (Bob) Weber of Dunlap; Tom Sullivan (Sally) of Carroll; Kathleen (John) Roane of Neola; her brother-in-law, Ed Heffernan of Dunlap; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated by Rev. Michael Berner March 5, 2004, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling. Burial was held at St. Joseph's Cemetery in Earling, with Nick Rohe, Marcus Dresen, Matt Rohe, Shane Walde, Don Weber and Frank Roane casket bearers. Pauley Jones Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

