

Joyce Ann Elder, 57

Aug. 23, 1938 - Aug. 1, 1996

IRWIN - Joyce Ann Elder, daughter of Robert and Edna (Zihlman) Vandersnick, Sr., was born Aug. 23, 1938, in Mt. Pleasant. She attended St. Alphonse's Elementary School in Mt. Pleasant, and then Mt. Pleasant High School. After high school graduation, she attended Mt. Saint Clair Nurses College in Clinton for one year.

April 8, 1957, she married James M. Elder in Rock Island, IL. Following a number of moves due to Jim's teaching career, the couple settled in Irwin, in 1970. She worked for St. Luke's Gordon Recovery Center-MIADAC in Harlan, for the past 23 years. She was raised in the Catholic faith. She was a member of the Irwin Ladies Bridge Club. She died Aug. 1, 1996, at Myrtue Memorial Hospital at age 57 years, 11 months and nine days.

Preceding her in death were her father, Robert Vandersnick, Sr.; and one brother, William Vandersnick in 1974. Survivors include her husband, James M. Elder of Irwin; three sons, Phillip (Theresa) Elder of Sergeant Bluff; Kevin (Cathy Ferguson) Elder of Irwin; and James Anthony "Chip" Elder of Mitchell, SD; one sister, Mary Lee Donlan of Burlington; one brother, Robert Vandersnick, Jr. of Mt. Pleasant; her mother, Edna Vandersnick of Maple Leaf Nursing Home in Mt. Pleasant and four grandchildren and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Aug. 3, 1996 at Burmeister Funeral Home with Father Jon Kautzky of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Red Oak, officiating. Honorary casket bearers were Richard McMahon, Donald Kutnink, Kenny Madsen, Bob Burton, Marvin Nielsen and J. Duwaine Hirschy. Burial of ashes will be at a later date in Mt. Pleasant.