

Arlene French, 82

Dec. 9, 1920 - May 1, 2003

MANILLA – Arlene Ruth French, daughter of Julius and Elsie (David) Polzin, was born Dec. 9, 1920, near Manning, in Carroll County. Arlene's family lived in several places near Manning when she was a child. She attended school near her home and following her schooling, she worked in the homes of her family and neighbors.

Feb. 8, 1940, she married Howard O. French at the home of her parents in Audubon County. Four children were born to this union. Arlene and Howard made their home on a farm in Polk Township in Shelby County before settling on a farm in Jefferson Township. In the late 1980's they retired from farming but stayed living on the home place. In November of 1995, Arlene suffered a stroke and became a resident of the Manning Plaza Nursing Home. She was baptized and confirmed at Zion Lutheran Church in Manning. However, she and Howard belonged to Trinity Lutheran Church south of Manning for many years, just recently transferring their membership to Zion. She died May 1, 2003, at the Manning Plaza Nursing Home at age 82 years, four months and 22 days.

Besides her parents, Arlene was preceded in death by a stillborn baby girl and a brother, Earl Polzin. She is survived by her husband of 63 years, Howard French of Manilla; children, Karie Marie Graham of Omaha, NE; Ruth Ann Muckey (Michael) of Omaha, NE; Carl French (Carol) of Manilla; grandchildren, Todd Graham (Kim) of Portland, OR; Tim Graham of Omaha, NE; Renee (Ron) Howard of Bellevue, NE; Jennifer (Dan) Behrens of Manning; David Muckey (Christy) of McKinney, TX; Eric French (Jennifer) of Des Moines and Kyle French of Manilla; great grandchildren, Ronnie Howard, Doris Ann Howard, Tyler Graham, Andrew French, Samantha French and Grant Behrens; sister, Gladys (George) Musfeldt of Irwin; sister-in-law, Florence Larsen of Manilla; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held May 5, 2003, at the Zion Lutheran Church in Manning, with Pastor Daniel Vogel officiating. Burial was in the Manning Cemetery. Casket bearers were Todd Graham, Jennifer Behrens, Eric French, Renee Howard, David Muckey, Tim Graham and Kyle French. Ohde Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.