

Harlan, Ia. Tribune Tuesday, October 27, 1998

## Margaret F. Gross, 84

Feb. 26, 1914 - Sept. 23, 1998

**PORTSMOUTH** - Margaret Fidelis Gross, daughter of John and Sarah (McAndrews) Smith, was born Feb. 26, 1914, at Buck Grove. She was baptized at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Buck Grove and received her first communion at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Manilla. She attended St. Angela's Academy in Carroll, graduating from Manilla. She taught in rural schools in Crawford County and Shelby County,

June 17, 1937, she married Matt H. Gross at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Manilla. To this union two children were born. They moved from the Earling area in 1938, to the Portsmouth area. She made her home in the Senior Citizens housing in Portsmouth, before entering the Baptist Memorial Home in Harlan in December of 1996. She was a member of St. Mary Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church in Portsmouth, and the Catholic Daughters of America Court St. Katherine No. 266 of Earling. She entered Myrtue Memorial Hospital Sept. 21, 1998, and this is where she died Sept. 23, 1998, at age 84 years, six months and 25 days.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her infant son, Raphael in 1938, and her brothers, John, William and Joseph. Survivors include her son, David Gross of Omaha; grandchildren, Deanna Fuller, Jeffery Gross and Kristine Russmann; two great grandchildren, John and James Fuller; her brother, Gene Smith (Marian) of Portsmouth; her sisters, Monica (Harold) Kleffman of Harlan and Catherine (Herman) Jokerst of St. Augustine, FL; and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was concelebrated Sept. 25, 1998, at St. Mary Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church in Portsmouth, with Rev. Paul Bianchi celebrant and Msgr. Edward Kelly concelebrant. Burial was in St. Mary's Cemetery in Portsmouth, with Chris Smith, Jeffery Gross, John Fuller, Chris Russmann, Dennis Smith and Michael Kleffman casket bearers. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.