

## Betty Jean "B.J." Hemminger, 49

*July 7, 1954 - Oct. 6, 2003*

**HARLAN** – Betty Jean "B.J." Helen Hemminger, the daughter of Kenneth E. and Betty Hartman Campbell, was born July 7, 1954, at Harlan the fifth of six children. She attended school at Harlan Community Schools graduating from Harlan Community High School in 1972. Upon graduation, B.J. went to work in Omaha and then returned to Harlan to work at the Harlan Super Valu.

Oct. 18, 1975, B.J. married her high school sweetheart, Dwayne Hemminger, at the First United Methodist Church in Harlan. They were blessed with two daughters, Heather Jean, a senior at Wayne State College at Wayne, NE, and Holly Christine of Harlan. Jan. 16, 1978, B.J. took the job of manager for the brand new Casey's General Store in Harlan. In October of 1981, she became the first woman supervisor for Casey's, where she continued to work. B.J. was recently honored for 25 years with the company. At the same dinner, she was recognized for over 20 years of work for the Variety Club of Iowa, a charity she strongly supported. She was an active member and vice-president of the Omaha-Council Bluffs Classic Chevy Car Club and with her husband, Dwayne, restored and showed their 1957 Chevy; traveling with the club to shows and parades. They also restored a 1965 Chevelle for their daughter, Heather, and are working on a 1972 Monte Carlo for their daughter, Holly. B.J. and Dwayne operated the first video rental store in Harlan in 1986 and a second in Denison, in 1988. She also helped start a regional chapter of the Video Software Dealers Association and continued to serve on its Board of Directors. B.J. was instrumental in starting a scholarship program with the VSDA. Because of her work in establishing the scholarship program, it has been named after her. B.J. died Oct. 6, 2003, at Jennie Edmundson Hospital in Council Bluffs, at age 49 years, two months and 30 days.

She was preceded in death by her father, Kenneth; brother, David; grandparents, George and Ida Campbell and George and Olive Hartman; and one great nephew, Maxwell Pope. Survivors include her husband, Dwayne of Harlan; her daughters, Heather Hemminger of Wayne, NE; Holly Hemminger of Harlan; her mother, Betty Campbell of Harlan; her brothers, Kenny Ed Campbell; John Campbell (Susan), all of Harlan; Kevin Campbell of Des Moines; one sister, Rev. Judy Piper of Sidney; sister-in-law, Marie Campbell of Harlan; 10 nieces and nephews; six great nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Oct. 9, 2003, at the First United Methodist Church in Harlan, with Rev. Ed Frank officiating. Burial was in the Harlan Cemetery with Gary Lane, Joel Janssen, Rick Lambert, Dennis Bailey, Milt Fricke and Jerry Pearson casket bearers. Pauley Jones Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.