

Agnes B. Kiesel, 90

May 28, 1907 - Oct. 9, 1997

SHELBY - Agnes Birgitta Kiesel was born May 28, 1907, in Columbia Heights, MN. She was the daughter of Andrew and Elvina Larsen Carlson, one of five children born to that union. Upon completion of high school, she attended college in Des Moines, for two years. She was one of the first nursing staff members of the Lutheran Hospital in Des Moines.

She married Clarence (Pete) Gracey June 15, 1935, in Des Moines. They moved to Avoca in 1940. They were the parents of three children, Stuart, Julia and Thomas. Pete died in 1962. She married Elmer Kiesel in 1964. They made their home in Shelby. Elmer died suddenly from a car accident in 1965. She was currently a resident of Immanuel Terraces in Omaha, NE. She was a past member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Avoca, and a present member of the United Lutheran Church in Shelby, where she taught Sunday School for many years and was finance secretary for the church for over 20 years. She was a past member of P.E.O.; a Past Worthy Matron of the Eastern Star and was secretary for her chapter for 33 years. She was awarded a Distinguished Cross, which is a National Honor few receive in the Eastern Star, for her outstanding work and service. She died at Immanuel Hospital in Omaha, Oct. 9, 1997, at age 90 years, four months and 11 days.

She is preceded in death by her parents; her husbands, Pete Gracey and Elmer Kiesel; two grandchildren, Jeannette Gracey and Charles Goodrich; three brothers, Alvin, Kermit and Henry, and a sister, Edith Graham. She is survived by her children, Stuart Gracey (Virginia) of Widbey Island, WA; Julia (Charles) Goodrich of Waynesboro, VA and Thomas Gracey (Mary) of Elkhorn, NE; eight grandchildren, Josephine, Alan, Jill, Robert, Tim, Alison, Scott and Chad; six great grandchildren; seven stepchildren, Donald, Douglas, Beverly, Mildred, Darrell, Merle and Ronald; numerous step-grandchildren and step-great grandchildren; a sister-in-law, Inez Carlson of Des Moines, and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Oct. 13, 1997, at the United Lutheran Church, Shelby, with Pastor Stan Nielsen officiating. Burial was in Resthaven Cemetery, Des Moines. Knutson Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.