

Edna Leaders, 88

Nov. 9, 1917 - Sept. 1, 2006

NEOLA — Edna Anna Margaretha Leaders was born in rural Oakland Nov. 9, 1917, to Charles Edward and Wilhelmina "Minnie" Alf Alloway. She lived in western Nebraska and Casper, WY when she was three years old and the family then moved to three miles east of Treynor. Edna started school at Pleasant Valley School, a one room school with 20 students, half of whom were second and third cousins. When she was eight years old, the family moved southeast of Oakland and there she attended Center No. 5 through the eighth grade.

Edna married Vernon Alvin Leaders Aug. 30, 1938 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church northwest of Oakland. They were the first couple to be married in that church. They lived for the next five and one half years on a farm near Gretna, NE. In 1944, they moved to a farm near Neola. They were the parents of six children, LaVern, Nancy, Charles, LaVonne, Rozanne and Calvin. Edna was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church until 1966 when she joined Underwood Lutheran Church in Underwood. She was an active member of the church circle, was a member of the P.T.A. at school, the O.T.O. Club, Friendly Links Club, a member of West Pottawattamie Farm Bureau Women's Committee for 36 years, and seven of those years she served as chairwoman. She was also a member of the Neola Senior Citizens, the Neola American Legion Auxiliary and she did a lot of volunteering for seniors (1,000 hours one year). In addition to this she was a farm wife and helped with the field work. She worked for seven years as a cook at the Minden Café and also operated a little neighborhood grocery store in Council Bluffs. She took care of her grandma the last three and half years of her life in her home and cared for her mother for eighteen and a half years. In 1986 she moved to Minden and managed the motel for 15 months before moving to Neola for 14 years. She then became a resident of Rose Vista Nursing Home in Woodbine. She died Sept. 1, 2006, at Rose Vista Nursing Home in Woodbine at age 88 years, nine months and 23 days.

Edna was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Vernon; an infant daughter, LaVonne; two brothers, Lewis and Lawrence Alloway; daughter-in-law, Marilyn Leaders; sister-in-law, Ilene Applegate; and two brothers-in-law, Lloyd Leaders and Gerald Leaders. She is survived by three sons, LaVern Leaders (Janet) of Underwood; Charles Leaders of Minden; Calvin Leaders of Underwood; two daughters, Nancy Stueve (Ernie) of Logan, and Rozanne Wax (LaVerne) of Hemingford, NE; 14 grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; four step grandchildren; seven step great-grandchildren and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Sept. 5, 2006, at the Underwood Lutheran Church in Underwood with Rev. Eberhard Hering and Pastor Brian Wohlhuter officiating. Honorary casket bearers were Edna's 22 great-grandchildren and casket bearers were Joe Leaders, Lynn Leaders, Ed Stueve, Michael Leaders, Brian Leaders, Danny Wax, Chuck Copperstone, Mark Meyer, Allen Stueve and Jeremy Wax. Burial was held in the Silver Valley Cemetery in Hancock. Pauley Jones Funeral Home in Avoca in charge of arrangements.