

Vera Laver, 96

Sept. 22, 1919 - March 13, 2016

ELK HORN — Vera Alene Laver was born on September 22, 1919 to Charles and Anna (Vanderwall) Cutler in Oklahoma City, OK. While she was growing up in Oklahoma, she cooked and cleaned for different families after school. When she was nineteen years old, she went to California with two of her friends and worked in a greenhouse, returning home within six months.

Shortly after her return, Vera met Ralph Laver while he was working on a dairy farm. They were married on July 1, 1939. Eight children were born to this union: Margaret, Carolyn, Leslie, Nancy, Jim, Lynn, Randy, and Gene. They stayed in Oklahoma for three years after their marriage before moving to Shelby County where she raised their children outside of Irwin and Harlan.

Vera had a large garden where she raised fruits and vegetables and would can and freeze the produce. She also raised chickens and cleaned them herself. She worked hard to support her husband and provide for her children. When her children were older, she worked at Western Iowa Pork and then at Myrtue Hospital in housekeeping for eleven years. She retired from Myrtue but after Ralph's death in December of 1990, she went to work at Elm Crest Retirement Home for a few years. Vera died at Myrtue Medical Center on Sunday, March 13, 2016 at the age of ninety-six years, five months, and twenty days.

Vera was preceded in death by her parents, husband Ralph, daughters Margaret Plumb and Caroline Laver, grandson Cory Laver, great-grandsons Jackson Rabe and Josh Thompson, great-granddaughters Paige Greve, Destiny Laver, and Grace Rosonke, brothers Jack, Edward, William, and Everett Cutler, and sister Gladys Tharp. She is survived by her children: Leslie Laver and his friend Rita of Aurora, OR, Nancy Laver and Tim Grimsley of Avoca, Jim Laver and his wife Eva of Harlan, Lynn Laver and his wife Norma of Rock Springs, WY, Randy Laver and his wife Mary of Council Bluffs, and Gene Laver and his wife Shauna of Harlan; twenty-seven grandchildren; forty-five great-grandchildren; seven great-great-grandchildren; son-in-law Don Plumb of Harlan; other family members and friends.

Pastor Al Hazelton officiated the 10:30 a.m. funeral service on Wednesday, March 16, 2016 at Pauley Jones Funeral Home in Harlan. Helen Warren accompanied vocalist Linda Nelson. Serving as casket bearers were Jason Plumb, Richard Armell, Ross Laver, David Plumb, Adam Laver, and Cole Laver. Burial was held at Rose Hill Cemetery in Kirkman.

Pauley Jones
FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION

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