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Ila Mae Mickel, 74

Sept. 26, 1925 – Jan. 8, 2000

HARLAN – Ila Mae Mickel, daughter of George and Myrtle Thenola (Fritz) Sisson, was born Sept. 26, 1925, in Harlan. She attended school in Harlan, and graduated from Harlan High School in 1943.

May, 1945, she married George "Bud" Mickel in Kansas. The couple opened Mickel's Café in Harlan, in 1948, and they both worked in the business. After Bud's death Dec. 7, 1969, in Omaha, NE, Ila continued to run the restaurant. She retired in 1978, and sold the café to Ken and Sue Kobold. She then devoted herself to caring for her mother. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Harlan. She was also a member of the National Restaurant Association and the Harlan Chamber of Commerce. She died Jan. 8, 2000, at Myrtue Memorial Hospital at age 74 years, three months and 13 days.

Preceding her in death were her parents; her husband, George; one brother, Gaylin Sisson; and one sister-in-law, Marilyn Sisson. Survivors include three brothers, Kenneth (JoAnn) Sisson of Tacoma, WA; Frank (Joleen) Sisson of Denison and Steve (Connie) Sisson of Omaha, NE; two sisters, Virginia (Duane) Larson of Lakewood, CO and Jeannie (Jack) Lytle of Omaha, NE; nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held Jan. 11, 2000, at the Burmeister-Johannsen Funeral Home in Harlan, with Pastor Paul Wilcox officiating. Honorary casket bearers were Darla Musich, Danine Miller, Peg Schwarte, Agnes Hastert, Marge Schaben, Darlene Anderson and Leora Kirk. Casket bearers were Jon Burmeister, James Burmeister, Frank Mainelli, Michael Burger, George Sisson and Harry Nollen. Burial was in the Harlan Cemetery. Burmeister-Johannsen Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.