

## Eileen Peters, 86

*Sept. 8, 1917 - June 16, 2004*

**HARLAN** – Eileen Mary Peters, the daughter of Matthew L. and Elizabeth Tamisiea Shea, was born Sept. 8, 1917, in Neola. She was baptized and confirmed at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Neola. Eileen attended school at St. Joseph's High School in Neola College of St. Mary's in Omaha, NE. She taught country school in Neola Township in the 1930's and 40's, Crescent from 1942 to 1943, and finally in the Panama and Portsmouth schools in the 1960's.

June 2, 1943, Eileen married Leonard Theodore Leuschen at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Neola. After their marriage, they made their home in Panama where they were the parents of two sons, Gerald and Dan. Leonard died Oct. 17, 1968. After his death, Eileen moved to Harlan in 1969 and worked at the offices of Drs. Donlin, Markham and Harris.

Aug. 14, 1976, Eileen married Ralph Martin Peters at St. Michael's Catholic Church. They made their home in Harlan. He died Sept. 29, 1994. She was a member of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court of Saint Katherine No. 226 of Earling, and a member of St. Michael's Catholic Church. She died June 16, 2004, at Elm Crest Retirement Community at age 86 years, nine months and eight days.

In addition to her parents, Eileen was preceded in death by her husbands, Leonard and Ralph; her son, Gerald, who died Dec. 29, 1995, and her brother, Vic Shea. Survivors include her son, Dan Leuschen (Terese) of Fort Collins, CO; daughter-in-law, Sandi Leuschen of Harlan; her grandchildren, Mike and Jerry Jr. Leuschen and Sam and Annie Leuschen; a stepson, Bruce Peters (Arlene); a stepdaughter, Linda Palmer; 10 step-grandchildren; seven step great-grandchildren; and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated June 19, 2004, at St. Michael's Catholic Church with Rev. Robert Hoefler celebrant. Burial was in St. Mary's Cemetery in Panama, with Gene Leuschen, Thomas Shea, Jim Stessman, Dennis Shea, Sam Leuschen, and Greg Palmer casket bearers. Pauley Jones Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

