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## **Leona Rank, 89**

**April 19, 1905 - May 6, 1994**

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**Harlan-** Leona Meyers Rank was born to German immigrant parents, Charles and Dora (Asmus) Meyers on their farm home in Greeley Township, Shelby County, April 19, 1905. She was one of eight children. She grew up on her parents farm home in Greeley Township in central Shelby County. She received her formal education at Greeley Township School #5 and attended Harlan High School for one year.

She married Ben Rank Feb. 14, 1923 at the Salem Evangelical Church in Defiance. To this union, four children were born, two of which died as infants. They started their married life on a farm, some years later moving to Defiance for a short time and then to Woodbine where they went into the chicken business. Then the family moved into Omaha where they found employment at a food processing plant. In 1961, they moved to Harlan and she worked as a Nurse's Aide at the Baptist Memorial Home for over 22 years. Dec. 16, 1975 Ben died at age 79. In 1976 she sold her home and moved to Westridge Apartments. In July of 1982, she entered the Baptist Memorial Home in Harlan where she lived until her death May 6, 1994, just 17 days after her 89th birthday. She enjoyed reading her bible and had crocheted over 47 afghans in her lifetime.

In addition to her parents, husband and an infant son and daughter, she was preceded in death by two sisters: Hattie Elwell and Freda Jensen, three brothers, Alvin, Hugo and Carl Meyers. She is survived by her two daughters: Wilma (Robert) Mitchell of Harlan, Maxine (Wayne) Brandes of Hancock, one brother, Lester (LaVern) Meyers, of Harlan, one sister, Dorothy Fick of Gray, seven grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held May 9, 1994 at Pauley Funeral Home with Rev. Paul Wilcox of the First United Methodist Church in Harlan officiating. Burial was in the Rose Hill cemetery at Kirkman with Bob Mitchell, Russell Brandes, Daryl Christensen, Bruce Heilesen, Jim Scheffler and Duane Musich casket bearers.