

## Bessie Russmann, 89

*Jan. 29, 1912 – Nov. 25, 2001*

**AVOCA** – Bessie Faye Russmann was born Jan. 29, 1912, in Sidney, NE, the daughter of Cecil and Ethel Pettit Rife. The family moved to the Avoca area and Bessie attended elementary and high school in Avoca.

She married Elmer "Bob" Russmann June 4, 1938, in Papillion, NE. They farmed in the Hancock area. Derald, Ferrell and Sharon, as children had spent many summers with Bessie and Bob on the family farm. Bob died in 1980. Bessie then lived with her brother, Edwin Rife, on the farm near Avoca. Bessie had joined a craft club in Oakland, and for a short time, a 500 Card Club. She moved to Avoca Nursing and Rehab Center Jan. 29, 2001. She died at the Avoca Nursing and Rehab Center Nov. 25, 2001, at age 89 years, nine months and 27 days.

Bessie was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Bob; her sisters and brothers-in-law, Doyne and her husband, Edward Russmann and Ruby and her husband, Harvey Weber. She is survived by her brother, Edwin Rife, of rural Avoca; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Nov. 27, 2001, at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Avoca, with Pastor John Rinde and Lay Assistant Wayne Paulsen officiating. Burial was in the Graceland Cemetery. Casket bearers were Charles Lees, Paul Lees, Bob Thoms, Marvin Richter, Lon Jacobsen and William E. Simpson. Knutson Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.