

Ella Mae Schmitz, 90

May 9, 1918 - Sept. 26, 2008

WESTPHALIA - Ella Mae Schmitz, daughter of Matt and Margaret (Heese) Schomers, was born on May 9, 1918, on her parents' farm outside of Westphalia, IA, and was the first of five children. She was baptized and confirmed at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Westphalia and graduated from St. Boniface Catholic School.

May 14, 1946, Ella Mae was united in marriage to Roman John Schmitz at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Westphalia, IA. To this union six children were born: Jane, Robert, James, Joyce, Ralph, and Gary. Ella Mae and Roman made their home on the family farm outside of Westphalia for over thirty years. During that time they were active members of the church and community. In 1979, Ella Mae and Roman retired from farming and moved into town. Ella Mae enjoyed bowling, golfing, playing cards, and spending time with her family and friends. She looked forward to family gatherings and had numerous photo albums of her loved ones. She also kept an ongoing journal of her thoughts and activities. In 2005, Ella Mae became a resident of Little Flower Haven Nursing Home in Earling, IA. It was there that she died on Friday, September 26, 2008, having attained the age of ninety years, four months, and seventeen days.

Ella Mae is preceded in death by her parents; her husband Roman; and her brothers: Francis, Cyril, Alfonse, and her sister Margaret Wageman. She is survived by her children: Jane and her husband Howard Scott of Yutan, NE; Robert Schmitz and his wife Julie of Harlan, IA; James Schmitz of Westphalia, IA; Joyce and her husband Terry Clay of Harlan; Ralph Schmitz and his wife Janet of Polk City, IA; and Gary Schmitz and his wife Jeanie of Missouri Valley, IA; fourteen grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; her sister-in-law Verena Schomers of Westphalia, IA; her brother-in-law John Wageman of Earling, IA; nieces; nephews; other family members and many friends.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Monday, September 29, 2008, at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Westphalia, IA with Rev. John Dorton officiating the 10:30 a.m. service. Serving as casket bearers were: Jerrod Scott, Jeff Schmitz, Greg Schmitz, Wes Clay, Brad Clay, Sam Schmitz, Trevor Schmitz, and Kevin Schmitz. Burial was held at St. Boniface Cemetery in Westphalia, IA.



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