

Jean Schriefer, 86

Oct. 28, 1913 - March 30, 2000

AVOCA - Jean Caroline Schriefer was born Oct. 28, 1913, at Avoca, daughter of Frank D. and Ann Carolina Christiansen Nieman and was the youngest of five children in the family. She attended school in Avoca and graduated from Avoca High School in 1931. Following graduation, she worked for Attorney Jack Wyland.

She married Wilbert Sornsen in 1943, and they lived in Walnut for several years. She helped in the Piittmann-Sornsen Seed business where Wilbert worked. Wilbert died in 1962, and Jean then worked for Mez Implement Company in Avoca.

She married Arno Schriefer in 1965, and they made their home in Avoca. Arno died in 1985. She was a member of the United Church of Avoca and was very active in the women's organization of the church. She recently became a resident of the Avoca Nursing and Rehab Center because of health problems. She died March 30, 2000, at the Avoca Nursing and Rehab Center at age 86 years, five months and two days.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husbands, Wilbert Sornsen and Arno Schriefer; a sister, Bessie E. Crann; and three brothers, Will H., Theodore F. and Glen "Sandy" Nieman. She is survived by a stepdaughter, Lea Schriefer of Harlan; a stepson, Arno Schriefer, Jr. of Dewey, IL; four step grandchildren, Arno Schriefer III, Sierra (Mark) Goetz; Serena (J.T.) Bridges and Chris Cue; two nieces, Pat (Bob) Swanson of Atlantic and Sandra (Lou) Jezewski of Omaha, NE; two nephews, Francis Nieman (Bev) of Orange City and Richard "Larry" Nieman (Judy) of Glenwood; eight great nieces and nephews; six great great nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held April 1, 2000, at the United Church of Avoca with Pastor Will Bynagte and Pastor Matthew Nieman officiating. Casket bearers were Floyd Rhodes, Daryl Bailey, Eugene Sornsen, Rick Knutson, Marvin Piittmann and Jerry Mez. Knutson Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.