

Harlan, Iowa Tribune, Tuesday, December 6, 2005

Josephine Smith, 86

April 26, 1919 - Nov. 22, 2005

HARLAN — Josephine Edna Arkfeld Smith, daughter of Peter and Christina Huebner Arkfeld, was born April 26, 1919, on a farm near Panama. She was baptized and confirmed at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Panama. Josephine attended country school near her home through eighth grade. After her schooling, Josephine worked for area families.

June 25, 1940, Josephine married Lynn "Jack" Smith at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Panama and four children were born to this union. July 8, 1940, Jack and Josephine's farm suffered damage when their crops and livestock were destroyed by a tornado and hailstorm. Josephine was active in church and held numerous offices in the Rosary Society including secretary in 1970 and treasurer in 1971. Josephine was a member of St. Michael's Catholic Church and St. Michael's Guild in Harlan, since 1985. She died Nov. 22, 2005, at her home in Harlan at age 86 years, six months, and 26 days.

In addition to her parents, Josephine was preceded in death by her husband, Jack; her grandson, Chad Huebert; and brothers, Albert and Herbert. Survivors include her children, Garry Smith of Harlan; Cherylene (Neil) Huebert of Panama; Marlin Smith (Phyllis "Tiny") of Panama; Valerie (Bill) Sullivan of Council Bluffs; thirteen grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren; her sister Barbara Newland of Harlan; sisters-in-law, Lucille Wirtz of Harlan and Evelyn Smith of Panama. Her special care givers Sandy Stormer, Donna Murray, Marilyn Johnson and Martha Anastasi and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held Nov. 26, 2005 at 10:30 AM at St. Michael's Catholic Church with Rev. Robert Hoefler Celebrant. Honorary casket bearer was Chad Huebert. Casket bearers were Tim Smith, Todd Smith, Austin Sullivan, Troy Smith, Jay Smith and Trent Smith. Burial was in St. Mary's Cemetery in Panama. Pauley Jones Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

