

## Barbara Stracke, 85

April 27, 1931 - April 30, 2016

**HARLAN** — Barbara

Stracke was born on April 27, 1931 to Phillip and Barbara (Wetengel) Shields in Dunlap. She was baptized and confirmed at the St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Dunlap and graduated from St. Joseph's School with the class of 1949.

Barbara was united in marriage with Bernard Stracke on August 28, 1950 at the St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Dunlap. Eight children were born to this union: Bob, Paul, Ed, Larry, Jerry, Jane, Phil and Ann.

Bernard and Barbara farmed most of their lives. Throughout the years together they loved dancing to big band music, like when they first met each other at a dance. She also worked at the Little Flower Haven in Earling for thirteen years where she did housekeeping but she enjoyed doing whatever anyone needed done. From painting the ladies' nails to just being a listening ear if they needed someone to visit with.

She had a way to make everyone she met feel special. "All are welcome" was one way she was so kind to everyone from her friends, neighbors and especially her grandchildren. She always saw the good in people and was positive about the people in her life. She lived life to the fullest and didn't like making things about her. When family was in need, she would drop everything to support her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren in any way possible. Barbara died on Saturday, April 30, 2016 at the Myrtue Medical Center in Harlan having attained the age of eighty-five years and three days.

Barbara is preceded in death by her parents, husband Bernard, sisters Loretta Voss, Charlotte Assman, Genevieve Moore and Joanne Graeve. She is survived by her children Bob Stracke and his wife Jeanna of Edmond, OK, Paul Stracke and his wife Cheryl of Graham, WA, Ed Stracke and his wife Kris of Saint Cloud, MN, Larry Stracke of Sauk Rapids, MN, Jerry Stracke and his wife Janet of Cary, NC, Jane and her husband Joe Herbers of Manning, Phil Stracke and his wife Sara of Manilla, and Ann Langenfeld and her friend Curtis Custer of Harlan, thirty-two grandchildren; twenty-six great-grandchildren; sisters Phyllis and her husband Darrell Hansen of Woodbine and Mary and her husband Ray Wilwerding of Earling; other family members and friends.

Rev. Guthrie Dolan celebrated the 10:00 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial on Tuesday, May 3, 2016 at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance. EAnn Christensen accompanied vocalist Jan Rau. Serving as casket bearers were Barbara's sons: Bob Stracke, Paul Stracke, Ed Stracke, Larry Stracke, Jerry Stracke, and Phil Stracke. Inurnment will be held at a later date at Sts. Peter and Paul Cemetery in Defiance.



*Pauley Jones*  
FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION

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Baldwin at 9th, Harlan, IA

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