

Mariette Wageman, 74

June 13, 1931 - Dec. 7, 2005

WESTPHALIA — Mariette Jose Wageman, the daughter of Henry and Maria Ragole Willemyns, was born June 13, 1931, in Zulte, Belgium. She was baptized in a Catholic Church in Belgium. She attended school in Belgium and France. At age 16, both of her parents died. She lived in Belgium until the age of 18 when she and her little sister, Lily, set sail by themselves to this foreign land of the United States. They landed on Eillis Island, NY, not knowing anyone and not being able to speak the language. They made their way to Omaha, NE where they were able to live with an aunt and uncle for a few years. She was employed at a drug store in Omaha, NE for three years.



Mariette married Charles Joseph Wageman Nov. 7, 1953, at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Westphalia. Three children were born to this union. After their marriage they continued to farm the Wageman family farm. She also worked at Variety Distributors for 32 years retiring in February 2005. She was able to return to Belgium in 1979 to visit her nephew, Harry. She died Dec. 7, 2005, at age 74 years, five months and 24 days.

Mariette is preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Charles, who died in 2001, son, Robert, brother and sister, Alfred Willemyns and Lily Anastasi. She is survived by her children, Charlette (Dwight) Bierbaum of Griswold and Cynthia (Russ) Ranniger of Manning; seven grandchildren, Shelly Asbee, Tammy Dill, Valerie Bierbaum, Melanie Bierbaum, Jacqueline Ranniger, Jessica Ranniger and Ann Ranniger; two great grandchildren, Randall and Zachary; her brother, Robert Willemyns (Rose) of Omaha, NE; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held Dec. 10, 2005, at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Westphalia with Rev. Robert Hoeffler and Rev. John Dorton celebrant and concelebrant. Casket bearers were Tammy Dill, Shelly Asbee, Valerie Bierbaum, Jacqueline Ranniger, Jessica Ranniger, Ann Ranniger and Melanie Bierbaum. Burial was in St. Boniface Cemetery in Westphalia. Pauley Jones Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.