



45 grandchildren; 44 great-grandchildren; a brother, Robert Bendon of Omaha; a sister, Laura Zimmerman of Omaha; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Mary's church in Portsmouth, on Friday, Feb. 29, 1980, with Rev. Vincent Rosonke as celebrant. Burial was in St. Mary's cemetery, Portsmouth, with Joe Blum, Nick Pursell, Rick Pursell, Alan Wingert, Barry Wingert, and Ronald Kleffman, serving as pallbearers.

Pauley Funeral Home was in charge of the services.

THE LIFE STORY OF —

Eldene V. Pursell, 77

Portsmouth — Eldene Veronica Pursell, daughter of Otha W. and Nora Headly Bendon, was born on a farm in Shelby county near Portsmouth, on Jan. 14, 1903. She was baptized and confirmed at St. Mary's church in Portsmouth. She attended St. Mary's school and grew to adulthood on her parent's farm.

On Nov. 21, 1921, she married Frank H. Pursell at St. Mary's church, Portsmouth. Nine children were born to this union. They farmed near Portsmouth until the spring of 1965, when they moved into Portsmouth. After Frank's death in Feb. of 1974, Eldene continued to make her home in Portsmouth. She died at Jennie Edmundson Memorial hospital, Co. Bluffs on Tuesday, Feb. 26, 1980, at age 77 years, one month and 12 days. She had been a life time member of St. Mary's church in Portsmouth and had also been a member of the Rosary Society.

In addition to her parents and her husband, she was preceded in death by a daughter, Jane Pursell; and three brothers - Clifford, Jenarius, and Austin Benson. Survivors include three sons - Gene and Jerry Pursell, of Co. Bluffs, and Paul Pursell of Phoenix, Ariz.; five daughters - Kathleen Kleffman and Carmella (Mrs Donovan) Grap of Portsmouth, Loretta (Mrs Ed) Blum of Omaha, Mary Ann (Mrs Ralph) Kramer of Pisgah, and Elaine (Mrs Walter) Koch of Co. Bluffs;