



The Life Story of --

MRS MARY STRACKE, 89

Mary Christina Stracke, daughter of Martin and Regina Zimmerman Coenen, was born on a farm near Westphalia, on Jan. 29, 1976 at age 89 years and 20 days. She was baptized and confirmed at St. Boniface Catholic church and attended school at St. Boniface Catholic school in Westphalia. On May 31, 1910, she married Henry Stracke at St. Boniface Catholic church. To this union, nine children were born. After their marriage, Mr and Mrs Stracke farmed northeast of Westphalia. In 1951, they retired from farming and moved to Defiance. After the death of her husband, Henry on Nov. 19, 1959, Mrs Stracke continued to make her home in Defiance until 1972, when she moved to the Sr. Citizen Home in Westphalia. She was a member of St. Boniface Catholic Church and Altar Society. She also retained her membership in St. Peter's Altar and Rosary Society in Defiance.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by her parents, one daughter, Sabina Reisz and one grandchild, Kenneth Stracke, by six brothers - Emil, Henry, Joseph, Alfonse, Godfrey and John Coenen and by two sisters - Sister Corsina and Johanna Patten. Mrs Stracke is survived by five sons - Alphonse, of Perry, Ia., Joseph of Omaha, Nebr., Leonard of Westphalia, Ia., Bernard of Manilla and Norbert of Co. Bluffs; three daughters - Laurina (Mrs Joe Schmitz) of Portsmouth, Marie (Mrs Rocco Nufrio) of Fountain City, Ind. and Bernadine (Mrs Lee Ausman) of Phoenix, Ariz., by two brothers - Clem and Wilfred Coenen of Westphalia, 45 grandchildren; 73 great grandchildren; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

A Concelebrated Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Boniface Catholic church in Westphalia, on Monday, Febr. 2, 1976, with Rev Albert Wilwerding as celebrant, Rev Gerald Deere as homilist and Rev. Richard Gubbels in charge of graveside services. Rev. Fred Reisch, Rev Edward Kelly, Rev. Donald Bruck, Rev. Adam Reisz, Rev. Gerald Stessman, Rev Ed Hurley and Msgr. Peter Schmitz were concelebrants. Burial was in St. Peter's cemetery in Defiance, with Jim Stracke, Bob Stracke, Eldred Reisz, Roger Stracke, Robert Schmitz, Danny Nufrio and Leonard Stracke, Jr. serving as pallbearers.