

Harlan, Iowa News Advertiser, Friday July 18, 2003

## Madonna "Jean" Bandow, 70

*March 16, 1933 - June 18, 2003*

**MANILLA** – Madonna Virgean "Jean", daughter of William and Theresa McNertney Gallagher, was born March 16, 1933, at Vail. She was baptized at St. Ann's Church in Vail. She received her first Holy Communion and was confirmed at Sacred Heart Church in Manilla. As a young girl Jean moved with her family to Manilla where she attended school and graduated from Manilla High School in 1951. She then babysat for neighbors and friends.

June 14, 1955, she married Melvin Albert "Mac" Bandow at Sacred Heart Church in Manilla. Jean and Mac made their home in Manilla. Early in their marriage she attended the Iowa Commission for the Blind for a short time, after which she had home teachers. Jean was born legally blind and completely lost her eyesight by the age of 40. Yet, she was very capable of everyday tasks and making the most of her life. In the late 1990's, Jean and Mac became residents and roommates at the Manilla Manor Nursing Home. Mac died Oct. 10, 2001. She was a member of Sacred Heart Church in Manilla and the Altar Society. She died June 18, 2003, at Crawford County Memorial Hospital in Denison, at age 70 years, three months and two days. Jean's final act was to donate her eyes for research so that others may have the advantages she did without.

Besides her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by two brothers, Lloyd and Merle Gallagher. She is survived by her sisters and brothers, Rita (Frank) Healy of Glendale, CA; Nelda McSorley of Denison; Arnold Gallagher (Lucille) of Manilla; Leo Gallagher of Oelwein; Gerald "Jerry" Gallagher (Lee) of Glendale, CA; Sister Mary Michelle Gallagher of Cedar Falls; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held June 21, 2003, at the Sacred Heart Church in Manilla, with Father Robert Gralapp officiating. Burial was in the Mount Olivet Cemetery, Manilla. Honorary casket bearers were her nieces and nephews. Casket bearers were Maurice McSorley, Keith Gallagher, Tyrone McSorley, Ron Petersen, Bob Kloewer and Steve Bandow. Ohde Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.