

Elizabeth "Betty" Blum, 88

Oct. 5, 1917 - Dec. 21, 2005

EARLING — Elizabeth "Betty" Adelaide Blum, daughter of Robert and Theresa Schneider Koesters, was born Oct. 5, 1917, at Earling. She was baptized and confirmed at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling and attended St. Joseph's Catholic School. During World War II, she worked in Omaha for the Creighton family, managing their household and taking care of the children.

Sept. 23, 1947, Betty married Leander "Jim" Blum at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling. After their marriage, the couple made their home in Earling. Four children were born to this union, Mary, Kathryn, Timothy and Jayne. Betty was a lifelong member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church, and was a member of the Catholic Daughters of the America Court St. Katherine No. 266 of Earling. She also made quilts for the missions and volunteered her time at Little Flower Haven. She became a resident of Little Flower Haven in August of 2005. She entered into the Madonna Rehabilitation Center in Lincoln, NE to recover after surgery. It was there that she died Dec. 21, 2005, at age 88 years, two months and 16 days.

In addition to her parents, and her husband, Jim, Betty was preceded in death by her brothers and sisters, Art Koesters, Gabriella Weis, Valerie Erlbacher, Norbert Koesters, Nettie Koesters, Richard and Frank Koesters. Survivors include her children, Mary Elizabeth (Merlin) Hayes of Denton, NE; Kathryn "Kathy" (Larry) Kopocis of LaVista, NE; Timothy Blum (Jacquelyn) of Golden, CO; Jayne (William) Graeve of Lincoln, NE; 10 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; her brother, Louis Koesters of Harlan; and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held Dec. 23, 2005, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church with Rev. Michael Berner, celebrant. Honorary casket bearers were Betty's grandchildren. Casket bearers were Gary Weis, Matt Koesters, Gene Koesters, John Koesters, Bill Erlbacher and Scott Koesters. Burial was in St. Joseph's Cemetery Pauley Jones Funeral Home in charge of arrangements

