

Patricia Chaffey, 82

Feb. 26, 1925 - July 3, 2007

HARLAN - Patricia Ann Chaffey, daughter of Claude Francis and Myrtle Grace (Miller) O'Neill, was born Feb. 26, 1925, in Omaha, NE. She graduated from Harlan High School in 1943, and attended Ottumwa Heights College for Women. Patricia received her Associate of Arts degree from Ottumwa Heights in 1945. She continued her education at Marquette University in Milwaukee, WI, receiving her PhD degree in 1949. She was awarded a Master of Social Work degree from Loyola University, Chicago, IL, in 1957.



April 27, 1960, Patricia married Warren Tremlett Chaffey at Beale Air Force Base in California. For 35 years, she worked as a social worker in Iowa, Illinois, Virginia, California, Guam, and Washington, DC. The couple returned to Harlan in June, 1973, where she remained active in her profession. Patricia was a member of St. Michael's Catholic Church. She was active in several organizations, including the American Association of University Women (AAUW), Myrtue Memorial Hospital Auxiliary, Sheiby County Democrats, and Air Force Sergeant Association Auxiliary. She had also served as president of the Shelby County Historical Society. She died July 3, 2007, at the Creighton University Medical Center in Omaha, NE, at age 82 years, 4 months, and 7 days.

Patricia was preceded in death by her parents. She is survived by her husband of 47 years, Warren Chaffey of Harlan; two step-daughters, Dale Avery and Valerie Fontaine, both of Los Angeles, CA; one step-son, David (Laurie) Chaffey of Los Angeles, CA; seven grandchildren; and other relatives.

A Memorial Mass was held July 7, 2007, at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Harlan, with Father Robert Hoefler celebrating. Burmeister-Johannsen Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.