

Harlan, Iowa News Advertiser, Friday July 19, 2002,

Leona Christensen, 78

Feb. 3, 1924 – July 1, 2002

HARLAN – Leona May Christensen was born to Beulah Lenora (Peerman) and Edward Ackley Gunsolley Feb. 3, 1924, at Defiance. She was baptized at the Church of Latter Day Saints in Logan, and was a member of the Harlan High School Graduating Class of 1941. Following graduation, she moved to Muscatine, where she was employed as a secretary for Kent Feeds. During World War II, Leona worked with her sister, Marie, at an aircraft plant in Davenport, assembling reconnaissance cameras.

Dec. 17, 1954, she married Ruben Howard Christensen in Omaha, NE. To this union three children were born. After their marriage, they made their home in Harlan. The couple moved to the Westridge Apartments in 1980, where Leona continued to reside until her death. She died July 1, 2002, at her home in Harlan, at age 78 years, four months and 28 days.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Ruben Christensen, Jan. 5, 1985; one son, James Christensen; and three brothers, George, Gale and Dale Gunsolley. She is survived by her daughters, Sherri Hanshaw of Bancroft and Darla (Mike) Anliker of Harlan; 11 grandchildren; 13 great grandchildren; daughter-in-law, Jean Christensen of Spencer; sister, Marie (Leonard) Greiner of Harlan; brothers, Ron Nollen (Paula) of Independence and Larry Nollen (Jan) of Blair, NE; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held July 7, 2002, at Pauley Funeral Home with Pastor Dale Jenson officiating. Burial was in the Harlan Cemetery with Mike Grulke, Cindy Krejci, Amy Hefner, Jamie Anliker, Sara Grulke and Katie Anliker casket bearers.