

Marie Coenen, 90

Oct. 13, 1912 - June 29, 2003

DEFIANCE – Marie Ann Coenen, the daughter of Nick and Elizabeth Thielen Leuschen, was born Oct. 13, 1912, at Portsmouth. She was baptized at St. Mary Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church in Portsmouth, and confirmed at St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church in Panama. She attended St. Mary's Catholic School in Panama, and was a member of the graduating class of 1931.

Feb. 16, 1939, Marie married Joseph H. Coenen at St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church in Panama. Five children were born to this union, Jane, Russell, Richard, Jack and Michael. After their marriage, they farmed west of Defiance for nine years and then took over Joseph's family farm when his father retired. They farmed there for many years, until retiring in 1976. In 1978, they moved into Defiance. She was a member of St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance. Marie died June 29, 2003, at Myrtue Memorial Hospital at age 90 years, eight months and 16 days.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Joseph, Sept. 13, 1981; her brothers and sisters, Hilda Fahn, Henrietta Schiltz, Urban, Donald, Rita and Nicholas Leuschen. Survivors include her children, Jane (Ron) Erbacher of Omaha, NE; Russell Coenen (Marilyn) of Houston, TX; Rick Coenen (Patty) of Omaha, NE; Jack Coenen (Chris) of Hudson, OH; Michael Coenen (Sharon) of Defiance; 10 grandchildren; eight great grandchildren; sister and brother, Helen Bieker of Harlan and John Leuschen of Panama; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated July 2, 2003, at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance, with Rev. Michael Berner celebrant. Burial was in Sts. Peter & Paul Cemetery in Defiance, with Russ Coenen, Rick Coenen, Jack Coenen, Mike Coenen, Ron Erbacher and Nick Coenen casket bearers. Pauley Jones Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

