

Harlan, Iowa News Advertiser, Friday, June 8, 2001, pg 6-B

Magdalen H. Erlbacher, 85

April 1, 1916 - April 18, 2001

EARLING – Magdalen "Lene" Hermana Erlbacher was born April 1, 1916, to Walburga (Schwarte) and Anton Freund on a farm north of Earling. She was one of 11 children born to the family. She was baptized and confirmed at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, and also attended St. Joseph's Catholic School.

Sept. 24, 1935, she married Leonard E. "Wimpy" Erlbacher at St. Joseph's Catholic Church. To this union eight children were born. They made their home on a farm near Earling, retiring to Earling in 1977. Magdalen became a permanent resident of Little Flower Haven Nursing and Rehab Center Jan. 19, 1999. She was a lifelong member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church and a Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court St. Katherine No. 266 of Earling. She died April 18, 2001, at age 85 years and 17 days at Myrtue Memorial Hospital.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her son, Gerald; two grandchildren; her brothers, Herman, Matt, Tony, Aloysius and Longinius Freund, and sisters, Loretta Gross, Ann Marie Schrader, Kathryn Freund and Helen Mynster. She is survived by her husband, Leonard "Wimpy" Erlbacher of Earling; children, Elaine (James) Barrett of Omaha, NE; Jan (Frank) Duffy of Omaha, NE; Phyllis Roberts of Omaha, NE; Marie (Denny) Kenkel of Earling; Allan "Tim" Erlbacher (Jane) of Defiance; Charles Erlbacher (Doris) of Dow City; Dean Erlbacher (Dana) of Defiance; 35 grandchildren; 37 great grandchildren; sister, Rita Hudson of Baton Rouge, LA; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated April 20, 2001, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling, with Reverend Michael Berner celebrant. Burial was in the St. Joseph's Cemetery with Doug Erlbacher, Mark Erlbacher and Jeff Erlbacher honorary casket bearers. Casket bearers were Brian Kenkel, Pat Erlbacher, Bruce Kenkel, Mike Erlbacher, Eric Roberts and Joe Erlbacher. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.