

Ella Mae Gross, 73

Feb. 5, 1921 - May 21, 1994

Earling - Ella Mae Gross, daughter of Mike and Catherine (Blum) Schneider was born Feb. 5, 1921 on a farm north of Defiance. She was baptized at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance and confirmed at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Westphalia. She attended St. Boniface Catholic School and after school worked in area farm homes.

May 16, 1943 she married Ray Gross at Camp hood, TX. Six children were born to this union. After their marriage, they resided in Temple and Belton, TX and Camp Polk, LA. During the time Ray served overseas in the service, she returned to Shelby County with her parents where she worked as a housekeeper. In 1945 he received his honorable discharge from the service and returned to Shelby County where he worked on area farms. In 1948, they moved to Earling where she helped her husband operate a shoe repair business. She also worked in the laundry at the Little Fower Haven Nursing Home and was a volunteer teachers aide in the Harlan Community School System. She died May 21, 1994 at the Myrtue Memorial Hospital at age 73 years, three months and 16 days. She was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling and the Catholic Daughters of Americas, St. Katherine's Court #266 of Earling.

She was preceded in death by her parents and one brother Bud. She is survived by her husband Ray Gross of Earling; her children, Joyce (Sylvan) Kenkel of Panama; Edna (Bruce) Smith of Lewis; Marla (Larry) Moller of Griswold; Lynn (Joni) Gross of Omaha; Diane (David) Rogers of Denison; Jolene (Lee) Null of Omaha; 12 grandchildren, 1 great-grandchild; her brothers and sisters, Rita (Frank) Reisz of Panama; Urban (Joan) Schneider of Harlan; James (Joan) Schneider of Lakewood, CO; Donald (Violet) Schneider of Arvada, CO; and Arlene (Merlin) Carter of Manning and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was concelebrated May 25, 1994 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling with Rev. Chuck Kottas celebrating and Rev. Leonard Kenkel and Rev. Don Daleke concelebrating. Burial was in St. Joseph's cemetery with Brian Thies, Robert J. Schneider, Dale Gross, Vaughn Gross, Bob Weis and Dan Wingert casket bearers. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.