

Vernella Goetzinger, 74

Oct. 28, 1927 - May 8, 2002

DEFIANCE – Vernella Elaine Goetzinger was born to Wilhelmina (Dierks) and Fred Backhaus Oct. 28, 1927, at Randolph, NE. She was baptized at the Methodist Church in Randolph. She attended school in McLean, NE and Manilla. Following high school, Vernella attended Commercial Extension Business School in Omaha, NE, for two years. She continued to work in Omaha until her marriage.

Nov. 24, 1948, she married LeRoy B. Goetzinger at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Manilla. To this union four children were born. In 1957, they purchased a farm north of Defiance, and resided there for 44 years. She was a member of the McLean Methodist Church in McLean, NE and St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance. She was a full time housewife and mother. She died May 8, 2002, at her home near Defiance, at age 74 years, six months and 10 days.

In addition to her parents, Vernella was preceded in death by her husband, LeRoy Goetzinger, June 14, 1989; two grandchildren, Sidney and Jacob, and her brothers, Clarence and Wallace Backhaus. She is survived by her children, Stanley Goetzinger (Libby) of Irwin; James Goetzinger and his fiancé, Kelly of Brooklyn; Mark Goetzinger of Council Bluffs and Donna (Keith) Lingle of Platte City, MO; five grandchildren; one sister, Irene (Cornelius) "Mike" Klein of Omaha, NE; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held May 11, 2002, at Pauley Funeral Home with the Rev. Jack McClure, C.P.P.S. officiating. Burial was in the Harlan Cemetery with Ryan Lingle, Roger Ahrenholtz, Keith Lingle, Ron Jacobsen, Ron Ertl and Nathan Lingle casket bearers.

