

## Leona Keel, 94

*Dec. 31, 1908 - Jan. 27, 2003*

**VALLEY CITY, ND** – Leona Jane Larson was born Dec. 31, 1908, in Center Township, rural Shelby County, to Chris and Florence (Maxwell) Larson. She attended Rabbit Hollow School in Center Township and graduated from Harlan High School in 1927. She taught in rural schools near Harlan, Turtle Lake, ND and Litchville, ND.

Nov. 10, 1929, she married Edward A. Keel in Denison. The couple farmed near Turtle Lake, ND, for four years before moving to a farm near Harlan. In 1944, they moved to Litchville, ND, and continued farming. Upon retirement, they lived in Valley City, ND. Edward died Oct. 2, 1976. Leona moved to Sheyenne Care Center in August of 2001. She died Jan. 27, 2003, at the Sheyenne Care Center in Valley City, SD, at age 94.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, two daughters, one son-in-law and one sister. Leona Keel is survived by four daughters, Shirley Larson of Minneapolis, MN; Marilyn Keel of Cambridge, MN; Marjorie (Milo) Larson of Pelican Rapids, MN; and Alice Keel of North Mankato, MN; grandchildren, Dave Larson; Susie (Dave) Cammack; Greg Crosswhite; Mollie (Gabe) Dean; Carolyn Larson and special friend, Daryl Klouff; Mark (Deb) Larson; and Chrissy (Todd) Mittelstadt; great grandchildren, Trevor and Lacey Cammack; Natalie Dean; Kacie, Nick and Sam Larson; Melissa and Tyler Sonsalla; one sister, Alma Christensen of Harlan; son-in-law, Burt Crosswhite of Hot Springs Village, AR; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Jan. 30, 2003, at Faith Lutheran Church in Valley City, SD, with the Rev. Thomas Peterson and Wendell Kopperud officiating. Burial was in Woodbine Cemetery in Valley City, SD.