

Leora Kirk, 84

July 28, 1926 - May 17, 2011

HARLAN — Leora Arlene Kirk, the daughter of Emil and Hulda (Fries) Troll, was born on July 28, 1926, in Walnut. She grew up on the family farm outside of Walnut, and attended Monroe #5 country school through the eighth grade. Leora helped with farm work on the family farm, and at the same time, started working as a housekeeper for various families. She continued as a housekeeper for many years, helping to support the family; she retired in 1997.

January 22, 1947, Leora married Otto Ferdinand Sorensen in Harlan. He died in January 1959, in Harlan. Leora married Olav Kirk on July 18, 1964, at the original Immanuel Lutheran Church in Harlan. Olav died on April 6, 2007, in Harlan. Leora was a long-time member of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Harlan, where she attended services as often as her health permitted. Leora was a member of the Harlan VFW Post #941 Auxiliary. She loved her family and enjoyed caring for them with her home cooking, baking, and canning. Leora liked tending her flowers, including her roses, going to the casino, and polka dancing. Leora A. Kirk died on Tuesday, May 17, 2011, at the Salem Lutheran Home in Elk Horn, having reached the age of 84 years, 9 months, and 19 days.

Leora was preceded in death by her parents; her first husband, Otto F. Sorensen; her second husband, Olav Kirk; one son, Galen Sorensen; two brothers, Wilfred Troll and Alvin Troll; two sisters, Gertrude Jacobsen and Alverta Hansen. She is survived by two sons, Rick (Kaomi) Sorensen of Harlan, and Daryl (Mary) Sorensen of Tempe, AZ; one daughter, Donna (Bob) Van Leuven of Mesa, AZ; four sisters, Dorothy Randeris of Audubon, Darlene Arp of Elk Horn, Ruth (Elmer) Heimerman of Boone, and Nancy Blum of Minneapolis, MN; 10 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and other relatives and friends.

A memorial service was held on Friday, May 20, 2011, at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Harlan, with Pastor Steve Chelley officiating. Marge Ahrenholtz served as the organist, and Diane Kastens was the soloist. Burial of ashes was in the Harlan Cemetery. Condolences may be left online at www.burmeisterjohannsen.com.

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FUNERAL HOME

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