

## Helen G. Petersen, 99

**Dec. 1, 1898 - March 13, 1998**

**HARLAN** - Helen Gertrude Petersen, daughter of William H. and Charlotte (Graves) Barkman, was born Dec. 1, 1898, in Jackson Township, Shelby County. She attended school at Center #1 and Jackson #3 in Shelby County. She was baptized and confirmed at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Jacksonville, and has been a member since 1919.

Dec. 10, 1919, she married Harry Andrew Peter Petersen at her family home. To this union four children were born. They first farmed west of Poplar for two years, then moved to a farm near Kirkman before moving to a farm near Harlan. Twenty-three years later they purchased the farm that they first farmed and moved back to Jackson Township in the spring of 1943. They made this their home until moving into Harlan in September 1959. Harry died in 1961, and Helen continued to live in their home until she entered the Salem Lutheran Home July 1, 1994. She was active in the Bethlehem Lutheran Church at Jacksonville, teaching Sunday School, playing the piano and was a member of the Ladies Aid. She died March 13, 1998, at Myrtue Memorial Hospital at age 99 years, three months and 12 days.

In addition to her parents and her husband, she is preceded in death by her great grandson, Shane Campbell, and her brothers, Eugene, Glenn and Kenneth. Survivors include her children, Harry Petersen Jr. (Patsy) of Harlan; Charlotte Andersen of Harlan; Nadine (Keith) Campbell of Harlan, and Arlo Petersen (Delores) of Jacksonville; Kenneth Thogersen (Lorene) of Lansing, IL, who made his home with them for many years; four grandchildren, Marcia (Monte) Hansen of Kirkman; Darwin Campbell (Connie) of Harlan; Jeffrey Petersen (Laurie) of Harlan; Debra (Kevin) Rutherford of Harlan; seven great grandchildren, Travis Campbell of Omaha; Angela Campbell of Ames; Brianne Hansen of Kirkman; Jay and Nicholas Petersen of Harlan; Kristen and Ashlen Rutherford of Harlan; her brothers, Harold Barkman (Nadine) of Colorado Springs, CO and Wayne Barkman (Ramona) of Hot Springs, AR, and other relatives.

Funeral services were held March 17, 1998, at Bethelam Lutheran Church in Jacksonville, with Pastor Mary Ann Lunde officiating. Burial was in the Jacksonville Cemetery with Bill Barkman, Paul Petersen, Mark Petersen, David Christensen, Ken Peterson and LaVerne Hansen casket bearers. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

