

Fern Thomsen, 83

Jan. 12, 1920 - Sept. 1, 2003

HARLAN – Fern Lorraine Thomsen, the daughter of Glen and Mary Jensen Doonan, was born Jan. 12, 1920, in Shelby County. She attended Jackson Township No. 9 School through the eighth grade.

Fern married Raymond Thomsen Sept. 20, 1942, at Monroe Methodist Church in rural Shelby County. They were the parents of three children, Judy, Dennis and Beverly. After their marriage, they farmed in Monroe and Jackson Township. Fern's family was very important to her. She wanted nothing more than to take care of her family even though she was struggling with an illness that left her paralyzed and confined to the wheelchair. With the help of her parents, her husband and hired help, Fern was able to raise her children. In 1993, Fern became a resident of Elm Crest Retirement Community. She died Sept. 1, 2003, at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, NE, at age 83 years, seven months and 20 days.

Her parents preceded her in death. Survivors include her husband, Raymond Thomsen of Harlan; her children, Judy (Gary) Hansen, Dennis Thomsen (Janet) and Bev (Tom) Schmitz, all of Harlan; nine grandchildren; five great grandchildren; and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Sept. 4, 2003, at Pauley Jones Funeral Home. Casket bearers were Neil Hansen, Michelle Leinen, Kris Melcher, Mark Schmitz, Tammy Lynam, Brent Hansen, Jeanne Hansen, Kevin Hansen and Becky Schmitz. Burial was in the Harlan Cemetery.

