

Mary Jean Zimmerman, 80

May 25, 1927 - Dec. 13, 2007

HARLAN — Mary Jean Zimmerman was born to Frances Payor Andersen and Joseph Holister of Omaha, NE on May 25, 1927. Several weeks after her birth, she was placed in Saint James Orphanage where she was baptized and remained until John and Theresa Schechinger of Westphalia, IA, adopted her on February 5, 1929. She grew to maturity on her parents' farm, attended country school and graduated from Saint Boniface High School in 1944. After high school, she helped her parents on the farm, worked at Farner's Department Store and at the Shelby County Treasurer's Office.



On February 25, 1954, she was united in marriage to Lee Zimmerman at Saint Michael's Catholic Church in Harlan, IA. Six children were born to this union. Lee and Mary Jean farmed between Harlan and Westphalia, IA. Besides being a wife and homemaker, she enjoyed quilting, playing cards, and visiting with her many friends. Her greatest joy was her children, grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Mary Jean was a lifelong member of Saint Boniface Catholic Church in Westphalia. She was involved in the Rosary Society and active in Catholic Education. Mary Jean passed away peacefully after a short illness on Thursday, December 13, 2007.

Preceding Mary Jean in death, in addition to her husband, were her parents and her brother, Francis Schechinger. Survivors include her children Curt Zimmerman of Harlan, Julie and her husband Jeff Kious of Omaha, NE, Mary Kay Zimmerman-Miller of Nunn, CO, Gene Zimmerman of Harlan, Jane and her husband Lee Esbeck of Elk Horn, IA, and Nancy and her husband Giles Seuferer of Milo, IA; eleven grandchildren: Jason Fandel, Deanna Fandel, Bryant Fandel, Coleman Miller, Russell Zimmerman, Heather Zimmerman, Angela Esbeck, Lucas Esbeck, Samuel Seuferer, Grace Seuferer, and William Seuferer, one great-grandson, Kale Zimmerman; nieces and nephews; other family members and many friends.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Saturday, December 15, 2007, at the St. Boniface Catholic Church in Westphalia, IA, with Rev. John Dorton officiating the 11:00 AM Mass. Honorary casket bearers were Lucas Esbeck, Coleman Miller, Samuel Seuferer, and Jason Fandel. Serving as casket bearers were Giles Seuferer, Russell Zimmerman, Bryant Fandel, Lee Esbeck, Scott Hansen, and Jeff Kious. Interment was held in the St. Boniface Cemetery in Westphalia.

*Pauley
L. Jones*

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