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Elma Mae Doonan, 81

KIRKMAN - Elma Mae Doonan, daughter of LeRoy and Clara (Kirby) Gaer, was born on a farm near Kirkman on Nov. 3, 1906. She died at Myrtue Memorial Hospital in Harlan on June 1, 1988 at age 81 years, six months and 29 days. She attended school in the Redline and Kirkman area and grew to adulthood on her parents' farm.

On Feb. 10, 1926, she married Arthur E. Doonan at First Baptist Church in Harlan. Three sons were born to this union. After their marriage, they farmed in Shelby County until 1965, when he retired from farming and they moved into Harlan. After the death of Arthur on June 23, 1980, she continued to make her home in Harlan until March 10, 1988, when she became a resident of the Salem Lutheran Nursing Home in Elk Horn. She was a member of First Baptist Church in Harlan.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by

one brother, Merle. She is survived by her sons, Donald of Elk Horn; Victor N., Sr. of Exira and Verle of Harlan; 12 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren; two brothers, Everett Gaer of Carlisle; and Lawrence Gaer of Conway, AR; one sister, Grace Petersen of Harlan; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were June 3, 1988 at Pauley Funeral Home with Pastor John M. Leggett of First Baptist Church in Harlan officiating, assisting by Pastor Carol Johnson of the Exira Christian Church. Burial was in Harlan cemetery with Kent Inman, Bob Doonan, Tom Doonan, John Doonan, David Doonan, Mitchell Munch, Scott Schaetzle, Eugene K. Crane, Michael Haley, Jr. and Victor Doonan Jr. serving as casket bearers. Pauley Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.