

Marilyn Fahn, 76

March 18, 1935 - Dec. 29, 2011

HARLAN — Marilyn Ann Fahn was born on March 18, 1935, to John and Anna (Reisz) Mickels in Panama. She was baptized and confirmed at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Panama. She grew up on a farm west of Panama and attended St. Mary's Catholic School in Panama, graduating at the top of her class in 1953. She continued her education at Mt. St. Scholastica College in Atchison, KS. After one year, she returned home to Panama.

June 6, 1955, Marilyn was united in marriage to Leo Joseph Fahn at St. Mary's in Panama. They had two sons: Jay and Jamie. In 1958 the family moved to the farm near Portsmouth, Joe and Marilyn moved to Harlan in 1990. Marilyn was involved with her sons' activities in 4-H and FFA and served as a Den Mother when the boys were in Scouts. When her husband was Iowa Pork Producer President, she loved actively promoting pork and was involved with the Porkettes at the state and local levels. In 1975 she won the County Porkette Bell Ringer Award and in 1988 won the State award. She served on the State Pork Queen Committee and was a charter member of the Shelby County Porkettes, working many food stands at the Shelby County Fair. She was an active member of St. Mary's Catholic Church and served in the Rosary Society. She was also an active member of her community and served as president of the Community Club, chaired the 1984 Centennial Cookbook committee, belonged to the Community Chorus, and was a member of the Myrtue Medical Center Hospital Auxiliary. She received the Farm Bureau Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award in 2008 for her dedication to agriculture and pork. Marilyn enjoyed working in her flower gardens, attending book review club, and playing bridge, but her grandchildren's events brought her the most joy. Marilyn died unexpectedly at her home on Thursday, December 29, 2011, having attained the age of seventy-six years, nine months, and eleven days.

Marilyn was preceded in death by her parents John and Anna, her husband Joe, and sister Eileen Mickels. She is survived by her sons: Jay Fahn and his wife Linda of Harlan and Jamie Fahn and his wife Mary of Portsmouth; grandchildren: Megan and her husband Travis Kroneman of Osage and Ryan Fahn of Portsmouth; step-grandchildren Bonnie and her husband Brian Reinig of Omaha, NE and Amy Jo Jacobsen of Bethesda, MD; step-great-grandchildren Lexi and Noah Reinig of Omaha; brothers and sisters: Ron Mickels and his wife Carol of Omaha, Roger Mickels of Lakewood, CO, Norma and her husband Dan Schafer of Aurora, CO, Ken and his wife Jan Mickels of Omaha, Denise and her husband Andy Gross of West Des Moines, and Nick Mickels of Dunlap; additional family members and friends.



Rev. John Frost celebrated the 11:00 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial with Concelebrant Rev. Paul Koch on Tuesday, January 3, 2012 at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Harlan. Serving as casket bearers were Travis Kroneman, Ron Mickels, Nick Mickels, Ryan Fahn, Roger Mickels, and Ken Mickels. Interment was held at St. Mary's Cemetery in Panama.

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