

Mae Heilig, 86

May 13, 1923 - Oct. 16, 2009

HARLAN — Mae Rebeca Heilig, daughter of Chris and Johanna (Jensen) Swensen, was born on May 13, 1923, in Harlan. She was baptized at Bethel Baptist Church in Harlan and attended country school in rural Harlan. After school, Mae worked at the Whitestar Café in Harlan, Harlan produce, Olsen Grocery Store and managed the Casey's convenience store for over fifteen years. When Mae wasn't working, she enjoyed doing puzzles including jigsaws and crosswords. She also enjoyed listening to music, especially Big Band music, Elvis Presley, and Dean Martin. Mae was musically talented and could play the guitar and the piano. She also enjoyed



dancing and going to the horse races and dog races in Grand Island and Aksarben, NE. Mae became a resident of Salem Lutheran Homes in Elk Horn on October 30, 2007. It was there that she died on Friday, October 16, 2009, having attained the age of eighty-six years, five months and three days.

Mae is preceded in death by her parents and her sisters Dagny Svendsen, Christina Johnson, and her brother Norman Swensen. She is survived by her children: Lynn and her husband William VanBibber of Council Bluffs; Gary Heilig and his special friend Beverly Gessert of Minden; Peg Mikels of Ida Grove; Tom Heilig and his wife Cindy of Harlan; twelve grandchildren; thirty great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; her siblings: Ina Carroll of Jewel; Violet Fiscus of Harlan; Donald Swensen and his wife Jo Ann of Omaha, NE; Ethel Dent of Fayetteville, AR; and Joy and her husband Tom Salmon of Colorado; her sister-in-law Leota Swensen of Harlan; nieces; nephews; other family members and many friends.

Funeral services were held on Monday, October 19, 2009, at Pauley Jones Funeral Home in Harlan, with Rev. Steven Frock officiating the 10:00 AM service. Interment was held at the Harlan Cemetery with Mike Mikels, Joe McLaughlin, Matt Heilig, Brian Boyle, Logan Boyle, and David Heilig serving as casket bearers.

*Pauley
Jones*

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