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Mary Holtz, 85

Sept. 25, 1918 - Nov. 20, 2003

AVOCA – Mary Martina Holtz was born Sept. 25, 1918, near Hancock, the daughter of Nels and Anna Thompsen Jorgensen, and was one of five children born to this union. She attended Deermelr Country School.

Mary married Melvin Holtz Feb. 11, 1946, in St. Joseph, MO. Melvin worked for Olesen Chevrolet-Oldsmobile for many years. Mary worked for Jorgensen Feed and Seed, her parents' store. She then worked at Crahan Drug Store for numerous years. Melvin died July 26, 1987. Mary bowled in the Avoca Women's League. She earned many awards. She had won and placed in many City Women's Bowling Tournaments. Mary died at the Oakland Care Center Nov. 20, 2003, at age 85 years, one month and 26 days.

Mary was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Melvin; her brother, Robert Jorgensen; and sisters, Margaret Applegate and Merle, who died in infancy. She is survived by her sister, Elaine (Wesley) Anderson of Minden, NE; her brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Bill (Esther) Groepper of Bozeman, MT; her nieces and nephews, Judy Yeager, Bob Jorgensen, Barb Petersen, Dave Jorgensen, Cynthia Applegate, George Applegate, Ann Anderson, Jeanne Ruiz, Jacqueline Ramage, Jim Holtz, Gregg Groepper, Jay Groepper, Debbie Blome, Iva Marie Holtz and Elese Johnson, and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Nov. 24, 2003, at the Trinity Lutheran Church with Pastor Lou Hoger and Lay Assistant Wayne Paulsen officiating. Burial was in the Graceland Cemetery. Casket bearers were Steve Jorgensen, Chris Jorgensen, Jeff Anderson, Andy Ruiz, Mike Jorgensen, Greg Applegate and Jay Anderson. Pauley Jones Funeral Home - Avoca Chapel in charge of arrangements.