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Annabelle Madsen, 78

Nov. 18, 1926 - June 11, 2005

ELK HORN — Annabelle Elaine, daughter of Walter and Mary (Jepsen) Nelson, was born Nov. 18, 1926, one and one half miles east of Rorbeck. She attended Clay No. 5 school near her home and graduated from Elk Horn High School in 1944.

March 18, 1945, Annabelle married Earl August Madsen at the Elk Horn Lutheran Church. Two daughters were born to this union. They made their home in Elk Horn, where Annabelle was active in Earl's trucking, shelling and oil businesses. For several years, she was a telephone operator at Marne Elk Horn Telephone Company and an aide at Salem Lutheran Homes. Annabelle and Earl both retired in 1988 and for the next 15 years, they wintered in California and Arizona. She was baptized at Oak Hill Church near Brayton and attended Sunday school at Rorbeck. She was confirmed at Elk Horn Lutheran Church where she has been an active member in many capacities. June 11, 2005, she died at Immanuel Medical Center in Omaha, NE, following a year-long battle with cancer at age 78 years, six months and 18 days.

Annabelle was preceded in death by her parents and a sister in infancy. She is survived by her husband of 60 years, Earl Madsen of Elk Horn; daughters, Carolyn (Jerome "Jerry") Larson of Minneapolis, MN, and Kimberly (Michael) Williams of Omaha, NE; five grandchildren, Scott Larson (Lori) of St. Paul, MN; Kelly (Eric) Lardy of St. Paul, MN; Jessica, Ashton, and Ross Williams of Omaha, NE; five great-grandchildren: Eleanor "Ellie", Julia and Eva Larson and Carsten and Harrison Lardy; a brother, Emmert Nelson of Elk Horn; and other relatives.

Funeral services were held June 15, 2005, at the Elk Horn Lutheran Church with Rev. Keith Menter officiating. Burial was in the Elk Horn Lutheran Cemetery with the Elk Horn Class of 1944 honorary casket bearers. Ohde Funeral Home in Kimballton in charge of arrangements.