

Wilma Mitchell, 89

Dec. 9, 1925 - Jan. 6, 2015

HARLAN — Wilma Lucille

Mitchell was born on December 9, 1925 to Ben and Leona (Meyer) Rank in Douglas Township, Shelby County. She was raised on the family farm and helped her parents with chores after school. She attended various country schools and graduated from Defiance Public High School with the Class of 1943.

May 23, 1943, Wilma was united in marriage to Robert C. Mitchell by Rev. A. K. Henning. They made their home on the Mitchell family farm. They became parents to four children: Rose, Roberta, Rob, and Linda.

Wilma worked as a nurses aide for seven years at the Baptist Memorial Home in Harlan in the late 1950's and early 1960's. After forty-five years of farming, Wilma and Robert retired and in October of 1988, moved into Harlan. Wilma died on Tuesday, January 6, 2015 at Elm Crest Retirement Home having attained the age of eighty-nine years and twenty-eight days.

Wilma was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Robert, granddaughter Wendy Sue Mitchell, sister Evelyn, brother Donald, and daughter-in-law Janet Mitchell. She is survived by her children: Rose and her husband Robert Wessels of Raynham, MA, Roberta and her husband Matthew Hickman of Humble, TX, Rob Mitchell and his wife Linda of Council Bluffs, and Linda and her husband Duane Musich of Harlan; ten grandchildren: Tina, Tanya, Tricia, Nicki, Bob, Alex, Joey, Sara, Scott, and Tim; nine great-grandchildren: Jordan, Bradley, Taylor, Alexis, Jonathan, Blake, Jacob, Kyle, and Shelby; other family members and a host of friends and neighbors.

Wilma's son, Rob, spoke at her 11:00 a.m. funeral service on Friday, January 9, 2015 at Pauley Jones Funeral Home in Harlan. Jennifer Perkins and Rebecca Erlemeier provided music. Serving as casket bearers were Brad Freund, Taylor Freund, Jonathan Freund, Kim Wessels, Bob Mitchell, and Nicki Mitchell. Burial was held at Rose Hill Cemetery in Kirkman.



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