

Charlotte McDermott, 91

Oct. 24, 1923 - Feb. 22, 2015

HARLAN — Charlotte "Lottie" McDermott was born on October 24, 1923 to John and Frances (Rau) Kleffman near Portsmouth. She was baptized and confirmed at St. Mary Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church in Portsmouth. She grew up on the farm and attended grade school at St. Mary's.

In 1948, the family moved to Council Bluffs. Lottie went to work at the Brandeis Credit Department in Omaha, NE. She attended Boyles night school and was then employed by Woodmen of the World Life Insurance in the Application and Rating Department for four and a half years.

In 1958, Lottie was united in marriage to Paul McDermott of Omaha, NE. To this union they had four children: Dianne, Phillip, Richard, and Ann Marie. Lottie and Paul moved their family from Council Bluffs to a farm east of Portsmouth in 1966. Following her husband's death in 1982, Lottie and Ann Marie moved to Harlan. Lottie was a member of the Rosary Confraternity at Holy Family Parish in Council Bluffs and St. Mary's Parish in Portsmouth. She belonged to Circle 3 of St. Michael's in Harlan. She enjoyed growing flowers in her garden, quilting, baking, family dinners on Sunday, and most of all, visits from her grandchildren. A very special event was a trip to Medjugorje, Yugoslavia in 1988 with her sister Alice. Lottie was a resident of Elm Crest Retirement Home in Harlan but had been admitted to Myrtue Medical Center where she died on Sunday, February 22, 2015, having attained the age of ninety-one years, three months, and twenty-nine days.

Molly was preceded in death by her parents; husband; son Phillip; daughter Ann Marie; brothers: Ralph, Harold, Walter, Norbert, and Richard Kleffman; and sister Alice Kleffman. She is survived by her daughter Dianne and her husband Tim Blum of Portsmouth; son Richard McDermott and his wife Lisa of Missouri Valley; four grandchildren: Emily, Benjamin, and Matthew McDermott of Missouri Valley, and Karlana Pierce of Springfield, MO; brothers Harry Kleffman and his wife Cecilia of Harlan and Rev. James Kleffman of Council Bluffs; sister Mary Ann and her husband Leon Schueller of Dawson, MN; other family members and friends.

An 11:00 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated by Rev. John Frost on Thursday, February 26, 2015 at the St. Michael's Catholic Church in Harlan. Charlotte's family served as casket bearers. Burial was held at the St. Mary's Cemetery in Portsmouth.



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