

Petrea J. Nielsen, 100 ✓✓

July 13, 1895 - Nov. 24, 1995

Harlan - Petrea Jacobina Nielsen, daughter of Thomas and Vilhelmine Pedersen Christensen, was born July 31, 1895 in Hyllebjerg, Denmark. She was baptized in the Lutheran Church and attended country school in Denmark.

She married Soren Peter Paulsen in 1915 in White Sands, Denmark where he worked as a blacksmith. They moved to Handest Hide, Denmark where their first daughter was born. Shortly after that they moved to Hobro, Denmark where their son was born. Aug. 5, 1921 the family came to the United States and settled in Chicago, IL. Times were very hard and jobs were very hard to find so they moved thirteen times within their first year looking for work. While living in Chicago their second daughter was born. Shortly after, the family moved to Elk Horn in hopes of finding better work. In 1925 he died and the couples third daughter was born. Having four small children and no means of support, she moved to Harlan. With help from the Lutheran Church and friends in Harlan, she found work to support her children.

Kristin Peter Nielsen delivered milk and eggs to Petreas door and they became good friends. Aug. 23, 1930 they were married and she moved to his small acreage west of Harlan where they continued to operate his dairy farm. It was there a fourth daughter was born. The family continued to live on the acreage until 1949 when they moved back into Harlan and lived on 6th Street. He died Jan. 5, 1965. She was a member of the Immanuel Lutheran Church in Harlan. She became a resident of the Salem Lutheran Home in Elk Horn in Dec. of 1992 and had made this her home until entering Myrtue Memorial Hospital Nov. 14, 1995. It was there that she died Nov. 24, 1995 at age 100 years, three months and 24 days.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husbands; one son, Richard Paulsen and her brothers and sisters. She is survived by her daughters, Gerda Christensen of Harlan; Norma (Arion) Christensen of Sun City, CA; Lillian Paulsen of Harlan and Glenda (Franklin) Hanson of Omaha; two step sons, Harvey (Pearl) Nelson of Harlan and Viggo (Herdis) Nelsen of Kimballton; 12 grandchildren, 20 great grandchildren, four great great grandchildren and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Nov. 28, 1995 at Pauley Funeral Home with Pastor Jon Benson of the Immanuel Lutheran Church in Harlan officiating. Burial was in the Harlan Cemetery with Melvin Nelsen, Bill LaVasseur, Jr., Thomas Witt, Norman Nelsen, Ron Mosher and Dusty Frizzel casket bearers.