

Verdella Schulte, 84

Aug. 5, 1930 - March 19, 2015

PORTSMOUTH — Verdella Schulte was born on August 5, 1930 to John and Alma (Hodapp) Heller in Portsmouth. She attended St. Mary's Catholic School in Portsmouth and graduated with the Class of 1948.

One year later, on June 15, 1949, Verdella was united in marriage to Howard Schulte at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Portsmouth. They became parents to two daughters: Shyrl and LoAnn. Her first job after her marriage was selling Avon. She also worked at Variety Distributors and Burger Plumbing before they moved to Jefferson in 1982. They became members of St. Joseph's Catholic Church. They moved back to Harlan in 1991 where she took a job at Bauers Shoe Store and in the lunch program at St. Michael's Catholic School. They again became members of St. Michael's Catholic Church. Verdella and Howard enjoyed dancing, socializing with their friends including eating at local restaurants, and following Iowa State Cyclone basketball. After Howard's death in February of 1993, she continued to enjoy spending time with her family and friends, reading, and sitting outdoors with her black poodle, Cricket, particularly during her favorite seasons, spring and summer. She liked to play cards with her friends, especially 500 and Pitch, and was very competitive. Even though she gave up driving on her own, she liked to have a good time and never complained even when her health started getting worse. She moved to Iowa Falls to be closer to her daughter in 2006. On Thursday, March 19, 2015, Verdella died at Mary Greeley Medical Center in Ames, having attained the age of eighty-four years, seven months, and fourteen days. She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband.

Verdella is survived by her daughters Shyrl and her husband Randy Fiscus of Iowa Falls and LoAnn and her husband Chris Larson of Eagle River, AK; four grandchildren: Casey and her husband Matt McNeal, Nikki and her husband Ryan Allen, Taylor Larson and his wife Kari, and Katie Larson; five great-grandchildren: Dustin Reed, Brody McNeal, and Leah, Carson, and Nolan Allen; brother Don Heller and his wife Joan of Audubon; sisters Marjorie Heller of Omaha, NE, Marita and her husband Rick Orvold of Rochester, MN, Sharon and her husband Richard Van Tassell of Springfield, NE, and Julie and her husband Steve Flaherty of Las Vegas, NV; other family members and friends.

Rev. John Frost celebrated the 11:00 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial on Monday, March 23, 2015 at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Harlan. Music was provided by John Rosman. Honorary casket bearers were Don Heller, Richard Van Tassell, Bob Oswald, Paul Schulte, Leo Gaul, and Rick Orvold. Serving as casket bearers were Taylor Larson, Pat Heller, Mark Heller, Ryan Allen, Matt McNeal, and Jeff Blum. Burial was held at the Harlan Cemetery.



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