

Helen Stein, 99

Feb. 18, 1905 - May 19, 2004

PORTSMOUTH – Helen Johanna Daeges Stein, the daughter of Jacob and Mary Mathilda Thomas Daeges, was born Feb. 18, 1905, in Stanberry, MO. She was baptized at St. Peter's Catholic Church. Helen received her first Holy Communion and was confirmed at St. Mary's in Portsmouth. She attended country school No. 3 and St. Mary's Catholic School.

Helen, known to many as Lena, married John Peter Stein Nov. 11, 1924, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Portsmouth. They were the parents of three children, Richard, Russel and Cindy. After their marriage, they farmed near Portsmouth on the Stein family farm for over 50 years until John retired from farming in 1969. In October of 1988 they moved and made their home in Portsmouth. Lena worked cleaning homes, helping John on the farm and was also a homemaker. They were privileged to have celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary in November of 1989. Lena was a charter member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Portsmouth, and attended church there for over 92 years. She was a member of the Catholic Daughters of America, the Quilting Club, Widow and Widowers Club and past president of Circle, a social organization. In September of 1998, Lena moved to Silvercrest Assisted Living in Omaha, NE, to be closer to her children. She died May 19, 2004, at Silvercrest Assisted Living at age 99 years, three months and one day.

In addition to her parents, Lena was preceded in death by her husband, John; her son, Russel; daughter-in-law, Leona (Pat) Stein; brothers and sisters, William, Louis, Frances Schartz, Elizabeth Brackett, Anna Weihs, Bernadine Hughes, Pauline Sachs, Michael, Patrick, and Henry. She is survived by her children, Richard Stein and Cindy (Fred) Jones, all of Omaha, NE; three grandchildren, Mike Chamberlain (Jackie) of Lee's Summit, MO; Vicki Selix and Jill Chamberlain, both of Omaha, NE; one great grandson, Arlo Selix of Omaha, NE; two sisters, Marie Anderson of Newport Coast, CA and Loretta Grote of Harlan; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated May 22, 2004, at St. Mary Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church in Portsmouth, with Rev. Paul Bianchi celebrant. Honorary casket bearers were Dick Mickels and Ray Pitsch. Casket bearers were Phil Gau, Scott Gau, Richard Heller, Leonard Rau, Ray Stein and Phil Heller. Burial was in St. Mary's Cemetery in Portsmouth. Pauley Jones Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

