

Verna Stinn, 83

Dec. 15, 1918 - May 27, 2002

EARLING – Verna Stinn was born to Theresia F. (Behrendt) and Nick Schafer, Dec. 15, 1918, in Panama. She was baptized and confirmed at St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church and was a member of the St. Mary's Catholic High School Graduating Class of 1936 of Panama. Following high school, she attended Iowa Teacher's College Extension, and taught rural school around Panama. She later was employed by Sears in Omaha, NE.

May 1, 1945, she married Eugene "Gene" Stinn at St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church in Panama. After their marriage, they resided in Earling, where she worked with Gene as assistant Postmaster. For many years, she responded to children's letters addressed to Santa Claus. Letters from Santa were answered and returned complete with a stamp from the North Pole. She was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling, and was a Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court of St. Katherine No. 266 of Earling. Verna died May 27, 2002, at Little Flower Haven Nursing Home at age 83 years, five months and 13 days.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Eugene Stinn, Oct. 2, 1983, and one brother, Nicholas Schafer. She is survived by her brothers, Gerald Schafer of Panama and Daniel Schafer of Aurora, CO; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated May 31, 2002, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling, with the Rev. Michael Berner celebrant. Burial was in St. Joseph's Cemetery with Bob Finken, Dean Langentfeld, Jerry Bissen, Ralph Wingert, Mark Stessman and Chad Andersen casket bearers. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

