

Charlotte Swank, 69

Dec. 19, 1934 - Aug. 21, 2004

HARLAN – Charlotte Ann Swank, the daughter of Albert and Ida Meyer Petersen, was born Dec. 19, 1934, near Exira, in Audubon County. She attended country school in the Walnut area and graduated with the class of 1953 from Walnut High School. Soon after graduation, she worked in Atlantic, and then worked for Woodmen of the World in Omaha, NE. She later worked at Mickel's Restaurant, Dairy Queen and Concerned, Inc. in Harlan. Most recently she was employed at the Dairy Queen in Shelby.



Charlotte met Ed Swank at school in Walnut and after a four year courtship they were married Oct. 24, 1954, at the First Christian Church in Atlantic. They lived in Harlan until 1956 when they moved to a farm west of Harlan. To this union four children were born, Tim, Cathy, Brenda and Shelley. Ed and Charlotte farmed until 1999 and made their home in rural Harlan, Lincoln Township. She was a member of the Lebanon Chapter of the Easter Star and also a member of the First Christian Church, both of Harlan. She died Aug. 21, 2004, at the Creighton University Medical Center in Omaha, NE, at age 69 years, eight months and two days.

In addition to her parents, Charlotte is preceded in death by her daughter, Cathy; two brothers, Bob and Dale Petersen; and a sister, Ruth Murray. She is survived by her husband, Ed; her children, Tim Swank (Jean) of Harlan; Brenda (Chris) Jensen of Bremerton, WA; and Shelley (John) Schafer of Bellevue, NE; nine grandchildren, Patti Burroughs, David Swank, Shawna Jensen, Cindy Coldiron, Justin Schafer, Becca Swank, Morgan Schafer, Christine Schafer and Sarah Schafer; and one great-granddaughter, Sidnie Burroughs; two sisters, Maxine Hays and FloraBelle Hays, both of Atlantic; one brother, LeRoy Petersen (Marilyn) of Winchester, KY; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Aug. 25, 2004, at Pauley Jones Funeral Home with Rev. Al Hazelton officiating. Honorary casket bearers were Darlene Heilesen, Lorna Wahling, Ken Thompson, Barney Thompson, Cindy Coldiron, Shawna Jensen and Brian Petersen. Casket bearers were David Swank, David Clark, Mike Burroughs, Mike Burke, Justin Schafer and Dave Wahling. Burial was in the Pleasantridge Cemetery in rural Harlan.