

## Mary Ann Wilwerding, 83

*Nov. 17, 1921 - March 10, 2005*

**EARLING** — Mary Ann Wilwerding, daughter of John P. and Elizabeth Rueschenberg Blum, was born Nov. 17, 1921, at Defiance. She was baptized and confirmed at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance and attended St. Paul's Catholic School. Upon graduation in 1939, she was employed at the Bomber Plant in Omaha, NE from 1942-1944.

June 12, 1944, Mary Ann married Joe Wilwerding at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance. Three children were born to this union, Jane, Gary and Jody. After their marriage they lived in Earling where she was a stay-at-home mom. She was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling, the Altar and Rosary Society and the Catholic Daughters of America. She became a resident of Elm Crest Retirement Community in 1995 and it was there that she died March 10, 2005, at age 83 years, three months and 23 days.

In addition to her parents, Mary Ann was preceded in death by her brothers and sister, Father Victor Blum S.J., Roselle Blum, OSF, Leander Blum, Father Virgil Blum S.J., LaVern Blum, Edwin Blum, Ernie Blum, and Cyril "Bob" Blum. Survivors include her husband, Joe Wilwerding of Earling; her children, Jane (Phil) Bird of Overland Park, KS; Gary Wilwerding (Laurie) of Chicago, IL; Jody Wilwerding (Denise) of Omaha, NE; eight grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; her brothers and sister, Edgar Blum (Helen) of Earling; Reno Blum (Ethel) of Ralston, NE; Deloras Kaufman of Harlan, and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated March 14, 2005, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling, with Rev. Michael Berner celebrant. Burial was in St. Joseph's Cemetery in Earling with Dick Browns, Garret Wilwerding, Phil Bird, Luke Wilwerding, Pete Asta and Shaun Wilwerding casket bearers. Pauley Jones Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

