

Esther N. Petersen, 80

Esther Naomi Petersen, daughter of Peder and Anna C. Jensen Pedersen, was born Dec. 27, 1901 on a farm four miles west of Elk Horn. She attended the country school, Clay No. 3 and at the age of 17, accepted the Lord as her personal savior and was baptized at the Danish Baptist church. In 1920, she moved with her family to Harlan where she attended school, graduating from the 12th grade. She then worked as a stenographer for the Shelby Cullison Law Firm in Harlan and also as a telephone operator.

On June 23, 1927, she married Eddie Petersen in the Danish Baptist Parsonage in Harlan. One son, Gayle, and one daughter, Crystal, were born to this union. After their marriage, they made their home on a farm 4½ miles northeast of Harlan. This has been their home for over 50 years. On June 23, 1977, they were privileged to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary.

She was a member of the Bethel Baptist church in Harlan as well as a member of the Merry Homemakers. She died at Myrtue Memorial hospital in Harlan on Wednesday, April 14, 1982 at the age of 80 years.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a great grandson, David Krogstad; six brothers, William, Pete, James, Henry, Thorwald and Wilford Pedersen and one sister, Ida Andersen.

She is survived by her husband, Eddie of Harlan; her son, Gayle "Whitey" Petersen and her daughter, Crystal (Mrs Olin) Pash, both of Harlan; nine grandchildren and eleven great grandchildren; one sister, Agnes Pedersen of Elk Horn;

nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held at Pauley Funeral Home in Harlan on Saturday, April 17, 1982 with Pastor Larry Mitchell of the Bethel Baptist church officiating.

Burial was in the Harlan cemetery with her grandsons, Rick, Gaige and Gary Petersen and Rand, Redge and Ron Pash, serving as casketbearers.