Harlan, Iowa Tribune, Tuesday July 29, 2014, page 10-A

DeMaris Gress, 82 July 6, 1931 - June 21, 2014

HANCOCK - DeMaris E. Gress was born on July 6, 1931 to Ross and Wilma (Carson) Faubel in Gordon, NE. She was baptized in the Congregational Church of Wisner, NE, attended Country School No. 43, and graduated from Wisner High School. She continued her education at Wayne State College in Wayne, NE and became an elementary school teacher in Tekamah and Plainview, NE and then Oakland. It was at a dance in Oakland where she met Cletis Gress.

June 15, 1958, DeMaris was united in marriage to Cletis at the

same church she was baptized in. They became parents to three sons: Mark, Bruce, and Jeff. She enjoyed raising her boys, being a housewife, and was a loving mother. She belonged to her Wednesday coffee group for over forty years, loved going camping, and having lunch every week with the campers. Dee and Cletis loved to attend polka dances in Walnut and Minden, never missed an episode of Lawrence Welk, and could be found every year at the Bob Everhart Country Music Festival in Avoca. DeMaris was a wonderful cook and always wanted everyone to be happy so she would cook everyone's favorite dish. She loved playing cards and spending time with her grandkids. She remained in her home after her husband's death in 2010. It was there that she died on Saturday, June 21, 2014, having attained the age of eighty-two years, eleven months, and fifteen days.

Dee was preceded in death by her parents and her husband. She is survived by her sons: Mark Gress and his wife Kim of Avoca, Bruce Gress and his wife Peggy of Riverton, WY, and Jeff Gress and his wife Nancy of Hancock; seven grandchildren: Jonathan and his wife Gwen, David, Brian, Will, Travis and his wife Bonnie, Joe and his wife Anna, and Jon; four great-grandchildren: Trista, Cody, Frederick, and Christopher; sisters: Corinne and her husband Don Feller of Elkhorn, NE and Donna and her husband Bill

Baier of Greenfield; other family members and many friends.

Rev. Jonathan Heifner officiated the 11:00 a.m. funeral service on June 26, 2014 at Methodist Church in Hancock. Shirley Pattee was the musician and Melissa Drake was the vocalist. Serving as casket bearers was Jonathan Gress, Brian Gress, David Gress, Will Gress, Jon Gessert, and Joyce Pelster. Interment was held at Oak Hill Cemetery in Hancock.



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