

**Connie Gross, 62**

Jan. 3, 1947 - Dec. 27, 2009

**EARLING** - Connie "Toots" K. Gross, daughter of Edward Clark and Elaine (Weaver) Clark, was born on January 3, 1947, in Shenandoah. She was baptized and confirmed at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Imogene where she remained a member until graduating from Farragut High School with the class of 1965. After graduation, Connie continued her education at Business College in Omaha, NE. While attending school, Connie worked as a bookkeeper at her mother's hair salon in Omaha.



November 16, 1968, Connie was united in marriage to Melvin Gross at St. Robert Bellemine Catholic Church in Omaha, NE. Three children were born to this union: Stacen, Stephen and Annessa. After their wedding, Connie and Melvin made their home outside of Earling where they farmed. Connie worked in customer service at Communications Data Services Inc. in Harlan until her retirement in 2002. When Connie wasn't busy working, she enjoyed spending time with her family and friends, especially her friends at the aquatic center in Denison, her ladies from the Birthday Club and her fellow Red Hatters. Connie was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling where she was active in the Altar Society. Connie died on Sunday, December 27, 2009, at University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, NE, having attained the age of sixty-two years, eleven months, and twenty-four days.

Connie is preceded in death by her mother and father Edward Clark and Elaine (Clark) LaBore and her husband Melvin. She is survived by her son Stacen Gross and his wife Molly and four grandchildren: Tyler, Evan, Jordan, and Meg of Bellevue, NE; son Stephen Gross and his fiancé Angie Rust of Harlan; her daughter Annessa Gross and fiancé Mike Zehner and three grandchildren: Isabella, Avery and Kennedy of Woodbine; her brother Tom Clark and his wife Marcia of Arvada, CO; her sister Madonna and her husband Luther Henson of Crescent; her adopted father, Everett LaBore and his wife Lillian of Omaha, NE; nieces; nephews; other family members and many friends.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Wednesday, December 30, 2009, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling with Rev. Bob Hoefler celebrating the 11:00 AM service. Interment was held at St. Joseph's Cemetery in Earling, with Evan Gross, Jordan Gross, and Avery Zehner acting as honorary casket bearers. Serving as casket bearers were: Tim Gross, Brendan Gross, Greg Sextro, Kelly Henson, Roger Zehner, Phil Graeve, Robert

*Pauley Jones*

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