

Lucille M. Heller, 84

July 23, 1913 - March 11, 1998

DEFIANCE - Lucille Mary Heller, daughter of Patrick and Nora (McMahon) Hanrahan, was born July 23, 1913, at Buck Grove. She was baptized and confirmed at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Buck Grove. She attended country school and graduated from the Manilla High School in 1932. She then taught country school.

Jan. 8, 1934, she married Leonard Heller at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Manilla. They were the parents of 13 children. After their marriage, they farmed near Earling until 1947, when they moved to a farm in the Defiance area. In 1974, they retired from farming and made their home in Defiance, until July of 1990, when they became residents of the Manilla Manor Nursing Home in Manilla. Leonard died Dec. 13, 1991. She continued to reside at the Manilla Manor until 1996, when she moved to the Friendship Home in Audubon. She was a member of St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance, the Altar Society and Rosary Society of St. Peter's and also a member of the Catholic Daughter of Americas Court of St. Katherine No. 266 of Earling. She died March 11, 1998, at the Friendship Home in Audubon, at age 84 years, seven months and 16 days.

In addition to her parents and her husband, she was preceded in death by her sons, Joseph and William; five grandchildren, Debra, Joan, Jean and Chad Freund and Tim Heller; three brothers, Earl, Francis and Joe Hanrahan; and her sister, Kathryn Hanrahan. Survivors include her children, Roger Heller (Phyllis) of Defiance; Mary (James) Hermeling of Manilla; Paul Heller (Beulah) of Templeton; Maxine Schmieding of Co. Bluffs; Helen (Dennis) Freund of Earling; Agnes (David) Pursell of Bradenton, FL; Bernard Heller (Connie) of Co. Bluffs; Louis Heller (Sherry) of Defiance; LaVonne (Terry) Schulte of Westphalia; Jim Heller (Mary) of Manilla and Tom Heller of Defiance; her sister, Madonna Meehan of Denison; 35 grandchildren; 19 great grandchildren and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was concelebrated March 14, 1998, at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Portsmouth, with Rev. Joseph Brown celebrant and Rev. Robert Grallap concelebrant. Burial was in St. Joseph's Cemetery in Earling, with Tom Heller, Bernard Heller, Jim Heller, Roger Heller, Paul Heller and Louis Heller casket bearers. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

