

Gladys Jensen, 90

Jan. 15, 1912 - Oct. 25, 2002

ELK HORN – Gladys Fern, daughter of LeRoy and Pearl Custer Ferguson, was born Jan. 15, 1912, in Irwin. She was educated in the Harlan schools, graduating from Harlan High School with the Class of 1930.

Sept. 28, 1935, she married Harry B. Hansen. Three children were born to this union. Following their marriage, they lived in Elk Horn, and operated a trucking and grinding business. In 1941, they moved to the Hansen home place to take over the farming operation. Gladys and Harry moved to California in 1955. Following Harry's death on Christmas Day of 1955, Gladys returned to Elk Horn, and was employed by Steen Produce for several years.

Aug. 18, 1961, Gladys married Emory Jensen at the Little Brown Church in the Vale at Nashua. They farmed in Clay Township before purchasing an acreage in the south part of Elk Horn where they lived until Emory's death Feb. 15, 2000. She worked as a nursing assistant at Salem Lutheran Homes for 18 years, retiring in 1982. She was a member of Elk Horn Lutheran Church and helped make quilts for the church to give to the needy. She also belonged to the Rorbeck Sewing Club and the Neighborhood Club, and volunteered as a "flower lady," helping to maintain the flowerbeds at the Danish Windmill. In March of 2000, Gladys became a resident of Salem Lutheran Homes in Elk Horn, where she died Oct. 25, 2002, at age 90 years, nine months and 11 days of age.

Besides her parents and two husbands, she was preceded in death by a son, Donald Harry Hansen; three brothers, Ralph, Ival and Charles Ferguson; a sister, Clara Maag; and four grandsons. She is survived by two children, Phyllis LaBelle of Spokane, WA and Harry Hansen (Tijuana) of Wilmington, NC; 12 grandchildren; 18 great grandchildren; a cousin, Iona Koos of Walnut; sisters-in-law, Helen Ferguson of Phoenix, AZ; Ava Ferguson of Red Oak; Ethel Huckins of Eagle Grove; Edna Jensen of Brayton; two brothers-in-law, Otis Jensen and Leonard Jensen of Brayton; and nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Oct. 30, 2002, at the Elk Horn Lutheran Church with Pastor Michael Williams officiating. Burial was in the Elk Horn Lutheran Cemetery. Honorary casket bearers were Emmert Steen, Neoma Steen and LaVerne Johnston. Casket bearers were Calvin Hoegh, Gene Hoffman, Jim Bates, Lyle Petersen, Ed Leistad and Arnold Leistad. Ohde Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.