

Helen Lebeck, 87

July 2, 1911 - May 27, 1999

WALNUT - Helen Dorthea Lebeck was born July 2, 1911, on a farm in Fairview Township, Shelby County, daughter of Jacob and Agnes Stricker Sieck, and was one of 11 children in the family. She graduated from Walnut High School in 1930. She then took a Normal Training Class and taught at Clay #3, Monroe #'s 1 and 5, Elk Horn, Walnut, Carter Lake and Avoca schools.

She married Arnold Lebeck Sept. 26, 1934, in Walnut. They lived in Monroe Township all of their married life. They were the parents of four children, Phyllis, Gary, Lynn and Lorie. She was confirmed in the Peace Evangelical and Reformed Church and has been a member for 50 years at Peace Church where she was active as a youth sponsor, sang in the church choir, directed a junior choir and was an officer in the women's organization. Helen and Bertha Udem organized the Monroe Merry Makers 4-H Club. She was a charter member of the Monroe Friday Club, sang in the Shelby County Farm Bureau Women's Chorus, was an aide at the Salem Home and sang for many funerals. She also worked for the Elk Horn and Schirm Produce. She was the news correspondent of Monroe Township for the Harlan and Walnut newspapers for several years. Arnold died Jan. 10, 1986. For the past 13 1/2 years Helen has been a resident of Salem Lutheran Home in Elk Horn. She died at the Salem Lutheran Home May 27, 1999, at age 87 years, 10 months and 25 days.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Arnold; son, Lynn Darwin; a granddaughter, Lanette Lea Larsen; four brothers, John, Henry, Herman and Willie; and three sisters, Alma Marsh, Minnie Pieper and Anna Rold; and two siblings which died in infancy. She is survived by her children, Phyllis (Leroy) Larsen of Harlan; Gary Lebeck of Des Moines and Lorie (Dan) Knudsen of Harlan; 10 grandchildren; four great grandchildren; a sister, Ella Jensen of Elk Horn; a sister-in-law, Lorene Sieck of Walnut; and other relatives.

Funeral services were held June 1, 1999, at the Peace United Church of Christ, Walnut, with Pastor Stephen Gronseth and Pastor Robert Fallgatter officiating. Burial was in the Walnut Cemetery. Honorary casket bearers were Norman Johansen, Francis Andersen, Duane Sieck, Robert Sieck, Milton Jacobsen, Jerry Sieck, Jerry Young, Leo Jacobsen, John Scheef, Jr. and Harold Pieper. Casket bearers were Lance Larsen, Scott Lebeck, Mark Lebeck, George Paganis, Kirk Lebeck, Stephan Knudsen, Gregory Knudsen and Eddy Elliot. Knutson Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.