

Mary Belle Wageman, 83

Jan. 10, 1919 - June 19, 2002

HARLAN – Mary Belle Cecelia Wageman was born to Nora (Finnegan) Thompson and Robert S. Thompson Jan. 10, 1919, at Dow City. She was baptized and confirmed at St. Mary's Catholic Church and attended country school near Dow City.

Aug. 31, 1942, she married George Charles Wageman at Oakdale. Three children were born to this union. Following their wedding, they farmed for 13 years before purchasing and operating the Highway Tavern in Defiance. The couple operated the tavern for 25 years. In February of 1987, they moved to Harlan, where Mary Belle made her home until her death.

She was a member of St. Michael's Catholic Church in Harlan and a past member of St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance. She died June 19, 2002, at the Dunlap Nursing and Rehab Center at age 83 years, five months and 10 days.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, George Jan. 14, 1994; one sister, Anna Mae Thompson; brothers, Jack, Joseph, Alvin and Eugene Thompson; and one grandchild, Rusty Edward Fields. She is survived by her children, Georgene Fields of Harlan; Joseph Wageman (Betty) of Harlan; and Eugene Wageman (Linda) of Hancock; 12 grandchildren; 21 great grandchildren; one great great grandchild; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated June 22, 2002, at St. Michael's Rosman Parish Center in Harlan, with the Rev. Jack McClure celebrating. Burial was in the Harlan Cemetery with Rob Fields, Anthony Wageman, Ron Fields, Phil Wageman, Rick Fields, William Wageman and Brian Wageman casket bearers. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

