

Remembrance

Zita Ann Bruck,

89

Feb. 17, 1930 - March 30, 2019

EARLING – Zita Ann Bruck, daughter of Gilbert and Lidwina (Eisterhold) Rau, was born February 17, 1930 in Westphalia. She was baptized at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Westphalia and confirmed at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Portsmouth. She attended country school when she was young then St. Boniface Catholic School in Westphalia. When she was younger, Zita worked at the Blue Star Egg Factory in Council Bluffs and also helped on her parents farm.



On February 12, 1952, Zita was united in marriage to Richard "Dick" Bruck at St. Mary Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church in Portsmouth. To this union, nine children were born: Richard, Margaret, Rosealee, Wayne, Marilyn, Randall, Steven, Eric, and Cheryl. After their marriage, Dick and Zita farmed outside of Earling where she helped milk cows, raise sheep, cattle, pigs, laying hens, as well as helping with crop farming. She raised thousands of broiler chickens that she would process and sell throughout Shelby County. They also operated the HiWay Café in Earling for several years and Zita worked for over 35 years at Little Flower Haven where she also enjoyed singing to the residents with her sister Verla and playing her harmonica and tambourine.

Zita enjoyed picking apples at the Brickyard Orchard in Harlan and trips to the casino with her friends on the bus. Zita loved the Christmas season and every year the kids would help her and Dick decorate the entire farm with thousands of lights and other festive decorations especially her favorite angels. She loved spending time with her family and friends playing cards, softball, bowling and feeding the squirrels.

Zita died on March 30, 2019 at the Myrtue Medical Center in Harlan having attained the age of 89 years, one month and 13 days.

In addition to her parents, Zita was preceded in death by her husband; granddaughter Jennifer Obrecht, son-in-law Tom Obrecht and siblings: Marie "Mamie" Grote, Sr. Lita Rau, Mike Rau, Leonard Rau, Alma Bissen and Jeanette Mikels.

Zita is survived by her children: Rick Bruck and his wife Barbara of Manilla; Margaret and her husband Marlin Petersen of Kirkman; Rose and her husband Quinten Christensen of Harlan; Wayne Bruck and his friend Linda Bentzen of Defiance; Marilyn and her husband Dan Martin of Harlan; Randy Bruck and his wife Debbie Bruck of Manilla; Steve Bruck and his friend Karla Moeller of Harlan; Eric Bruck and his wife Patti of Storm Lake, and Cheryl Petsche and her friend Terry Koppold of Harlan; 19 grandchildren; two step grandchildren; 35 great grandchildren; three step great grandchildren; siblings: Dorothy Gaul of Harlan; Leo Rau and his wife Jane of Omaha, NE; Martha and her husband Paul Bissen of Harlan; Verla Mumm of Earling; Mervin and her husband Nels Nelson of Kerrville, TX; Patricia Kuether of Pierce, NE; Gilbert Rau, Jr. and his wife Mary Ann of Lander, WY and Judy and her husband Richard Jones of Omaha; nieces and nephews; other relatives and many friends.

An 11 AM Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated by Rev. Dan Gehler and Rev. John Frost on Wednesday, April 3, 2019 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling. Steven Obrecht, Tom Arkfeld, Jeremy Bruck, Nathan Martin, Josh Bruck, and Tim Bruck served as casket bearers. Interment was held at St. Joseph's Cemetery in Earling.

Pauley Jones Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Pauley Jones
FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION

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