



Betty J. McLaughlin

November 10, 1927 - May 5, 2014

Betty J. McLaughlin, age 86, of Fonda, Iowa died Monday, May 5, 2014 at the Newell Good Samaritan Center in Newell.

Betty J. (Perkins) McLaughlin was born on November 10, 1927 to Brent and Erma (Porath) Perkins on her grandparents farm West of Varina in Buena Vista County. She lived with her parents on an acreage northeast of Fonda. As a small child, she moved to a farm East of Varina in Pocahontas County. She later moved to a farm in Hayes Township, South of Storm Lake, where she began her education at the Hayes Township School. The family then moved back to the Varina area, where they lived on a farm West of Varina in Buena Vista County. She attended the Varina Consolidated School, graduation in 1945. Upon her graduation from high school, she attended the Electronic Radio Institute in Omaha, NE.

Following graduation, she became employed by the Illinois Central Railroad in Fonda, Iowa and in Myrtle, Minnesota as a telegrapher and station operator. On June 4, 1946 she married William J. McLaughlin Sr. at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church in Fonda. After their marriage they farmed in the Palmer, Pocahontas and Fonda areas for many years.

They moved into the town of Fonda in March 1970. She became employed at the Fonda Care Center as a CNA for six years. Betty then became employed

by the Fonda Public School, in the Food Service Department for 18 years. She retired in 1993. Betty was a former 4-H Leader, a member of the Holy Family Society, a member of the Catholic Daughters of Americas and a member of the Iowa Past Regents Club. Betty will be remembered as a loving and devoted wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, aunt, and friend. She will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her.

Betty will be greatly missed by her daughter, Bonnie Jean Palmer of Fonda; sons: Bob (Patti) of Laurens; Ron (Maralyn) of Fonda; and Bill (Kathy) of Fonda; grandchildren: Rob McLaughlin of Arlington, TX; Scott (Melanie) McLaughlin of Mitchell, SD; Courtni (Rob) Abbas of Sioux Falls, SD; Corey McLaughlin (fiancee, Shelby Johnston) of Pomeroy, IA; Jaci (Kirk) Johnson of Newell, IA; Chuck Palmer (fiancee, Tiffany Ihnen) of Raymore, MO; Brett Palmer (fiancee, Courtney Brown) of Raymore, MO; Michael (Dawn) McLaughlin of LeMars, IA; Andrew (Emily) McLaughlin of Grimes, IA; Eric McLaughlin (fiancee, Rachel Lausen) of Sioux Falls, SD; great grandchildren: Jasmine, Devin, Chloe, Lillian McLaughlin; Trevor, Brayden Johnson; Allison Palmer; Jaiden, Jordyn Davison and MacKenzie McLaughlin; sisters: Maxine Walters of Windom, MN; Karen (Bob) Vaith of Ellendale, MN; brother, Denny (Delores) Perkins of Owatonna, MN; sister-in-law, Joyce Perkins of Kenmore, WA; cousins; many nieces and nephews; and an abundance of friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Wm J. McLaughlin, Sr.; parents, Brent and Erma Perkins; brother, Don Perkins; sister and brother-in-law, Bonnie and George Lusk; brother-in-law, Cecil Walters; mother and father-in-law, Joe and Agnes McLaughlin; brother and sisters-in-law, Francis and Dorothy McLaughlin; Vincent and Mary Catherine McLaughlin; and sister and brother-in-law, Francis and Loretta Harrold.