

Obituary

Lila Jean Christenson

Lila Jean Christenson was born on October 9, 1931 in Beaver Crossing to Orville and Inez (Roach) Flanigan, the youngest of four children and died suddenly and went to her heavenly home on Friday, February 15, 2008, at Warren Memorial Hospital in Friend at the age of 76 years, 4 months and 6 days. Her mother passed away when Lila Jean was nine years old and she lived with other various family members while her father traveled with the railroad. Lila Jean graduated from Beaver Crossing High School with the Class of 1949 and attended every class reunion banquet through 2006. She furthered her education by attending the Lincoln Beauty Academy. She began a long career as a hair dresser in 1951 and at the time of her retirement in 2006, she was still running "Lila Jean's Beauty Shop", the oldest operating business in Beaver Crossing. On December 9, 1952, she was united in marriage to Flynn Carlon Christenson at the St. John's Lutheran Church parsonage and to this union four children were born, two stillborn sons, and two daughters, Beth and Nancy.

Lila Jean continued her work as a beautician eventually moving her shop into her home. In addition to raising her daughters, she raised a lot of kids, taking family members under her wing and helped raise Lonna and Wayne. Family was very important to her and she loved them all, especially enjoyed time spent with her grandchildren, and attended all school activities. Lila Jean supported family members in all that they did. She was a best friend to her family as well as mother or grandmother. During these last health struggles, Lila Jean never complained and always had a very positive, fantastic attitude. She had a wonderful sense of humor and could engage anyone in conversation. Lila Jean also worked at the Milford Rest Home and from 1986 through 1996, she also worked at Madonna in Lincoln.

As a young girl Lila Jean was baptized in the Christian Church in Beaver Crossing and upon meeting the love of her life, she took confirmation classes and later became a member of St. John's Lutheran Church, Cordova. Lila Jean had a very strong faith and encouraged all to "go on with their lives".

She is survived by her daughters and sons-in-law, Beth and Jack Hoffman, Nancy and Les Weber, all of Friend, six grandchildren and spouses, Dustin Hoffman and special friend Ruth, Hoyt, Kan., Joe Hoffman, Tecumseh, Jenny Hoffman, Friend, Tara and Jake Perkins, Springfield, Ill., Thad and Megan Weber, Lincoln, Patrick Weber, Friend, great-granddaughter, Madalyn Lila Perkins, her special nieces and nephews, including Lonna Purdy, Bushnell, and Wayne Buls, San Antonio, Tex., special friends, Alma Howe, Seward, John Harding, Beaver Crossing, a "third daughter", Charma Hicks, Lincoln, and a host of other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, Flynn in 2000, two infant sons, two brothers, Chester and Jack Flanigan, and a sister, Hazel Sedden.

A Funeral Service was held at 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 19, 2008 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Cordova, with Revs Kris Rebentisch and Arnold

Jurchen officiating. Interment was in the Beaver Crossing Cemetery. Closed casket visitation was on Monday, 1-9 p.m. and Tuesday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Lauber-Moore Beaver Crossing. In lieu of flowers Memorials have been established to the Beaver Crossing Volunteer Fire and Rescue or to the American Legion Auxiliary Unit #178. Pallbearers were Ray Gard, Roger Hannon, Bob Witte, Chad Hesel, Don Bolte and Bob Beckler. Wilma Gard, organist, accompanied the congregation as they sang "What A Friend We Have In Jesus", "Just As I Am" and "Beautiful Saviour". Condolences may be sent to the family at laubermooore.com.