



Rita McLaughlin

December 28, 1916 - August 30, 2009

Rita K. McLaughlin, age 92, of Amboy, died at St. Margaret's Hospital in Spring Valley, Sunday, August 30, 2009. She was born December 28, 1916, in West Brooklyn, the daughter of Christian and Kathryn (Long) Henkel. She was a 1938 graduate of the DeKalb Teachers College. She had been a teacher at West Brooklyn, Harmon, and Maytown Schools. After raising her family on the farm at 5 points, she returned to teaching in Maytown and Sublette, retiring as a principal and teacher at the Sublette Elementary school. She was a member of St. Patrick Catholic Church in Maytown where, in 2002, she was selected as the Woman of the Year, she was a member of the Altar and Rosary Society, and the retired Teachers Association. She married James McLaughlin at St. Flannen Church in Harmon December 30, 1942. He preceded her in death August 1, 1961. She was also preceded in death by 2 daughters Mary Kathryn in infancy and Margaret Meese; 1 brother Richard Henkel. She is survived by her children Edward (Kathy) McLaughlin of Amboy; Jeanne (Dick) Ladzinski of Peru; Stephen (Chris) McLaughlin of Hillsboro; Douglas (Brenda) McLaughlin of Sublette; 8 grandchildren Julie and Neil Thompson, James, Marie, and Rebecca McLaughlin, Elizabeth Koenen, and Nicholas and Andrew McLaughlin; 2 step-grandchildren Eric and Nikki Ohlendorf ; 8 great-grandchildren; 1 step-great grandchild; 1 sister Mary Ellen Uhlenbrock of Fenton, MO; sister-in-law Eleanor McLaughlin of Amboy; brother-in-law Jerome McLaughlin of Sublette. Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Wednesday, September 2, 2009 at 11:00 AM in St.

Patrick's Church in Maytown with the Rev. Carl Beekman, Pastor, officiating. Burial will follow in St. Patrick's Cemetery in Maytown. Visitation will be held on Tuesday, September 1, from 4:00 until 8:00 PM in the Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy with the rosary recited at 7:30 PM. Visitation will also be held on Wednesday from 10:00 until 11:00 AM in the church. A memorial has been established.

Tribute Wall



“ *Rita McLaughlin*

October 08, 2023 at 11:30 AM



“ *Rita McLaughlin*

December 31, 2022 at 02:40 AM



“ *Steve, I am very sorry for your loss. I know how much your mother meant to you. My thoughts are with you and your family.*

John gusick - August 30, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ I am sorry to hear of Rita's passing. I still recall when I first met her on my first visit to Sublette Elementary School after all my Harmon relatives gave me the small plurality that elected me to the Lee County School Superintendent post. As my school visit that fall day in 1975 ended, a nice lady (Rita) approached me with a question that startled me. Rita asked, "Do you know we share the same grandparent?" I had to admit that I did not and I remember wondering then to myself, "How could it be that my Grandma Jennie Long had not informed me/my family over the years of this reality of blood relatives? Rita promised to send me the family lineage data - - and she did so & I still have the genealogy chart she mailed me back then. Only after receipt of that chart did I know of our shared grandparent Richard "Pappy" Long and his two families of 6 and of 9 children which verified that many if not most of the 20th Century Harmonites were cousins to one another. No doubt Jennie mentioned Rita and other cousins' names many times [After reading the family lineage data I know all names had been heard in conversations between my mom LaVonne and Jennie (who lived with us) in my family over the years - - tho without details as to blood relationships.] Any how, I did know and think fondly of Rita and her calm, kind demeanor on that 1975 day when she introduced herself to me that day.

Mike Heckman

Mike Heckman - August 30, 2009 at 12:00 AM