

Florine Holtz 7/24/85

Funeral services for Florine Holtz, a long time Groton resident were held Wednesday, July 17 at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Groton with burial at the All Saints Catholic Cemetery in Andover. Father Leonard Fox officiated at the funeral Mass with readings by Catherine Ann, Mary and Laurie Wright, granddaughters of the deceased.

The soloist was Lee Schinkel as Mrs. Ben Anderson served as the organist. Pall bearers were: Robert Meister, Glenn Cooper, John Blair, Gene Cassels, Donald Koehler and Eddy Nehls. Honorary casket-bearers were: Charles Berg, Omer Nelson, Harry Pharis, James Stearns, Clarence VonWald, Orville Simonson, Melvin O'Day and Mike O'Day.

Florine Blair was born January 1, 1915 in Bristol, S.D. to Edward M. and Lucy Gorman Blair. Her early years were spent in the Andover community where she attended parochial school. After the family moved to Groton she attended school in Groton and graduated from Groton High School with the class of 1931. On February 9, 1934 she was married to Walter Holtz, Jr. in Webster. To this union two children were born, a son Alan, who preceded her in death and a daughter, Lyndal, Mrs. William Wright of Sioux Falls. Florine had been in ill health for some time and died at McKennan Hospital in Sioux Falls on July 14.

She lived much of her life with her parents and cared for her invalid mother for many years. Following her mother's death, she and her father moved to Estelline, S.D. where they operated a cafe for several years. They returned to the Groton area and operated the Wheel Inn at Ferney and later a truck garden operation. She was a member of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, the Altar Society and was a former member of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Surviving her are her daughter, Lyndal Wright of Sioux Falls, her son-in-law, William Wright, three granddaughters and two grandsons, a sister, Mrs. Lucy Siefkes, Groton, a brother, Thomas L. Blair, Aberdeen, seven nieces and two nephews. Preceding her in death were her son, her parents and three brothers.

Florine was proud of her heritage as the granddaughter of two pioneer families and was well acquainted with the history of area. She was an avid reader and (in former years) greatly enjoyed spending summers at the family cottage at Big Stone Lake. She will be missed by her family and her friends and especially by her nieces and nephews and their young families who received much happiness in the company of their "Auntie" Florine.