

Mary E. Saunders

4-18-84

The funeral for Mrs. Earl (Mary E.) Saunders, 83, of 815 South State Street, Aberdeen, were held Tuesday at 10 a.m., in the Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Aberdeen, with the Rev. J.E. Murphy officiating. Burial was in the Union Cemetery, Groton.

Mrs. Saunders died of injuries sustained in a car accident Friday, April 13, at St. Luke's Hospital.

Casketbearers were Clarence McNeill, Thurlo Jark, Robert Gill, George Saunders, Michael Bertsch and Greg Saunders. Organist was Mrs. Mary Beth Berreth and soloists were Dan Saunders and Theresa Saunders-Stone. Ushers were Frank Meehan, Henry DesNoyer and Lester Jenkins.

Mary Ellen Reilly was born on September 27, 1900, at Kankahee, Ill. The family moved to Watertown when she was a child and she graduated from Watertown High School. She graduated from Northern State College, Aberdeen, and taught school at Stratford before

marrying Earl Saunders, September 27, 1924, at Watertown. They established their home on a farm near Stratford before moving into Stratford in the late 1940's. She became postmaster in 1943 serving until 1970 when they moved to Groton. Mr. Saunders died in 1975 and in 1976 she moved to Aberdeen.

Mrs. Saunders was a member of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church and Altar Society, a 50-year member of the American Legion Auxiliary, Stratford, Retired Postmasters Association and the American Association of Retired Federal Employees.

Survivors include two sons, Thomas, Aberdeen, and James, Hubbard, Ore.; one daughter, Mrs. James (Margaret) Bertsch, Salem, Ore.; 15 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and one sister, Mrs. Evelyn Gill, Minneapolis, Minn.

She was preceded in death by her husband, one son, six brothers and two sisters.