

Clara A. Cornelis (FRANK)

Funeral services are to be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 30, in St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Brooklyn, for Mrs. Clara A. Cornelis, 88, of Brooklyn, who died Saturday, Dec. 26, 1998, in Brookhaven Nursing Home. The Rev. Richard Okumu will officiate.

The organist will be Marilyn Kriegel and the soloist will be Angie Hawkins. Special selections will be "On Eagles' Wings" and "How Great Thou Art." Casket bearers will be Brent Earley, David Lohse, Michael Cornelis, Charles Cornelis, Steve Gilman and Scott Himschoot. Interment will be in Calvary Cemetery.

There will be a rosary service at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Nevenhoven Funeral Home. Friends may call at the funeral home from 3-8 p.m. Tuesday, and the family will be present after 5 p.m.

Clara Agnes Van Ersvelde Cornelis, daughter of Henry Van Ersvelde and Mary Van Waus Van Ersvelde, was born July 1, 1910, in Hartford Township, near Victor, in Iowa County.

Her family moved northeast of Brooklyn and Clara received her education in a rural school. On Oct. 1, 1930, Clara was married to Frank Clarence Cornelis in St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Brooklyn. They farmed southeast of Brooklyn until they retired in 1977 and moved into Brooklyn. Since March 1, 1995, she has been a resident of Brookhaven Nursing Home.

Mrs. Cornelis was a member of St. Patrick's Church, St. Patrick's Altar & Rosary Society, and Neighborhood Betterment Club.

She was preceded in death by her husband, who died Nov. 26, 1990; one son, Clarence; four brothers, Bruno, John, Raymond and Henry Jr. Van Ersvelde; one sister, Rose LaKose; and two great-grandchildren.

Surviving are two daughters and their husbands, Frances and Robert Grismore of Ottumwa and Mary Ann and David Faas of Brooklyn; one brother, Frank Van Ersvelde; three sisters, Emma Frommelt of Montgomery, Ala., Philomena Fraker of Knoxville and Josephine Henry of Barnes City; eight grandchildren; 25 great-grandchildren; and nine great-great-grandchildren.

A memorial fund has been established.

BC December 30, 1998