

Effingham, KS

Ethel Lenore (Reynolds) Eckert-Gaggero, 92 of Effingham KS, passed away Monday May 14, 2012 at Medicalodge of Atchison.

Mass of Christian Burial will be 10:30 A.M. Monday May 21, 2012 at St. Ann's Church, Effingham, KS with Father Benjamin Tremmel, OSB and Abbot Owen Purcell, OSB as Concelebrants. Burial will follow at St. Ann's Cemetery. Family will receive friends from 6:00 to 8:00 P.M. Sunday May 20, 2012 at St. Ann's Church. Memorial contributions are suggested to St. Ann's Church or Atchison Hospital Hospice and may be left in care of the funeral home. Online condolences may be left at beckerdyer.com

Ethel was born November 5, 1919 in Atchison County, KS in the Good Intent community to James H. and Lula (Cobb) Reynolds. She grew up living and working on farms in Kansas. She graduated 8th grade from South Creek School near Effingham. Ethel was a member of St. Ann's Catholic Church, St. Ann's Altar Society, and the Busy Bee Club of Effingham. Ethel was known and admired for her cooking and baking. Her Burnt Sugar and Angel Food Cakes were always top sellers at the St. Ann's bake sales. The Eckert family dinners were not to be missed and few did. At a typical Sunday dinner it wasn't unusual that everything served was produced on the farm, i.e., fried chicken or country fried steak, vegetables from her garden, homemade bread and jam with churned butter, delicious cakes and pies with homemade ice cream, and of course, sweet iced tea. Ethel handed down her recipes to her children and taught her daughters and sons, several daughters-in-law, and granddaughters how to make homemade noodles, biscuits and cinnamon rolls. Ethel also loved to sew, embroider and crochet, showering her family with beautiful afghans, baby quilts, tea towels and pillowslips. Above all else, Ethel loved her family and treasured time spent with them. She watched her husband, Andy play baseball as a young man and during their 47 years of marriage they enjoyed attending their children's and grandchildren's many sporting events, school programs, concerts and plays. Her grandchildren have many fond memories of sleepovers and playing card games at Grandma's house. In her later years, Ethel enjoyed traveling and attending dances with her husband, Joe.

Ethel Reynolds married Andrew L. Eckert on November 27, 1935 at St. Ann's Church, Effingham, KS. Andy passed away June 4, 1982. On December 12, 1992, Ethel married Joe Gaggero at St. Ann's Church. Joe passed away on Dec 31, 2005.

Ethel is survived by her children; Andrew Vincent(Theresa) Eckert, Effingham, KS, Lee (Ruth) Eckert, Atchison, KS, Russell (Carol) Eckert, Effingham, KS, Karen (Ray) Bell, Lansing, KS, Jerry(Rita) Eckert, Effingham, KS, Jim(Shirley) Eckert, Effingham, KS, Mike (Amy) Eckert, Effingham, KS, and Debbie (Mark) Redding, Easton, MO, stepchildren, Joe (Wanda) Gaggero, Wichita, KS, Tim (Sue) Gaggero, Topeka, KS. Seventeen grandsons; Kenny, Tom, Joe, Doug, Dave, Brett, Todd, Chad, Kurt, Russ, Wade, Ryan, Gabe, Tony, Andrew, Austin and Ethan, and ten granddaughters; Denise, Donna, Michelle, Sadie, Sabrina, Tonya, Mindy, Myka, Mallory and Jacey. She also survived by 37 great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Ethel was also preceded in death by an infant daughter, Evelyn Marie (Dec. 1936) and a son Dennis Leo Eckert (June 15, 1964); also her parents and all her siblings; Irwin Reynolds, Iyla

Petrie, Clea Schmidt, Mabel Oswald, Russell Reynolds, Catherine Eckert, and Raymond Reynolds.