Steinauer, NE

Betty J. James, 65, of Steinauer, passed away October 8, 2012 in Beatrice. She was born to Henry and Vesta (Heath) Spier on May 29, 1947 at Pawnee City, Nebraska. Betty graduated from Pawnee City High School and then received her degree in restaurant management at Western Community College in Scottsbluff. Betty worked in several large restaurants in Scottsbluff including Bonanza and Country Kitchen and later managed The Mason Jar restaurant.

Betty was united in marriage to John James on May 29, 1981 at the Scottsbluff Court House. They settled down and bought a house and later chose to move back to Steinauer in 2010 to be closer to family.

Betty loved to cook and enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren and friends. Many referred to her as "Grandma Betty." Betty spent a lot of time creating updated photo albums of the grandchildren.

She is survived by her husband, John James of Steinauer, step-son, Jason James of Shubert, grandchildren, Anastazia and Terry Berry of Steinauer and Sandra Garcia of Ulysses, half-sisters, Linda Callwalder of Fort Lauderdale, FL and Mary Woodruff of Shubert, numerous nieces and nephews, brother-in-law, Wayne Lee Thompson of Tecumseh, sister-in-law, Joyce Spier of Pawnee City.

Betty was preceded in death by her parents, daughter, Pepper Jean Berry, grandson, Justin Kanniard, brother, Robert "Bob" Spier and sister, Helen Kay Thompson.

Funeral services will be held at the St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Steinauer, Nebraska at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, October 13, 2012 with Father Scott Courtney officiating. Visitation will be at the Wherry Mortuary in Tecumseh, Friday, October 12, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and one hour prior to the service at the church. Memorials may go to the family's choice. Online condolences may be left @ www.wherrymortuary.com.