Elsie Mary Tomashek,

95, of Winona died Tuesday, April 24, 2012, at Good Samaritan Nursing Home in Stillwater.

Elsie, one of 10 children, was born at home on the family farm in Oak Ridge of Winona County on Nov. 21, 1916, to Adolph and Anna (Frie) Duellman. The family then moved to a farm in Rollingstone, where she was raised and attended grade school in a one-room schoolhouse. On May 14, 1933, Elsie was united in marriage to James Tomashek. They were married for 40 years, then God called him home in 1973. In her later years, Elsie was employed by the housekeeping department at Winona State University, where she retired.

No matter the occasion, birthdays to anniversaries, Elsie enjoyed hand-writing letters to the special people in her life. Birthday cards were not complete without a personalized poem included on the inside. Her witty sense of humor and jokes will be missed by all who knew her.

Elsie is survived by three children, John “Jack” (Donna Mae) Tomashek of Bloomington, Robert “Bob” (Patricia) Tomashek of Lena, Ill., and Carol Tomashek of White Bear Lake; eight grandchildren, Brian Tomashek, Stacy (Jim) McNally, Shari (Rick) Streine, Tom Tomashek, Jim Tomashek, Joel Tomashek, Kathy (Chris) Sheriff, and Rob (Ponjet) Tomashek; 10 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by her parents; husband, James; son, Joseph and his wife Dorothy Tomashek; and nine siblings.

Funeral Mass will be at 12:30 p.m. Monday, April 30, at St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Winona with visitation one hour prior. The Rev. James Berning will officiate. Interment will follow in St. Mary’s Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be directed to St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Winona. Please share a memory of Elsie with her family, sign the online guestbook and view her video tribute when it becomes available at www.hofffuneral.com.