

Katharina Thiessen Eitzen, daughter of Abraham and Maria Friesen Thiessen, was born on October 5, 1883 at Henderson, Nebraska where she spent the first 10 years of her childhood, it was here that she also received her only education which was the first three grades.

The family then moved to Butterfield, Minnesota. It was here that she was baptized in 1902, upon the confession of her faith in Jesus Christ as her personal Savior, by Elder Heinrich Regier. That same year the family moved to North Dakota and settled in Cavalier County in Trier township on a farm about 5-1/2 miles northwest of the present site of Munich. Here she united with the Salem Mennonite Church of which she remained a faithful member until her departure.

On July 13, 1905 she was united in marriage to Abraham P. Eitzen. They lived in Munich until December of that year when their plans were suddenly changed due to the death of Mrs. C. P. Eitzen, and they had to move to their farm, here mother took upon herself the responsibility of caring for the motherless daughter. Then in October 1907 they established their home on their farm 4 miles south and one-half mile west of Munich, where they experienced many hardships of pioneer life during the first years. Here she resided until her death. Here they were permitted to share joy and sorrow together for 52 years, 3 months and 22 days. July 13, 1955 the Lord graciously permitted them to observe their 50th wedding anniversary. This union was blessed with two children.

Throughout the years Mother endured many trials through illnesses especially in March 1913 when she had a very serious operation; and in the summer of 1917, when the doctor gave up all hope of recovery but God miraculously undertook except for complications as a result of the serious sickness which she patiently endured throughout the years. Then in May 1956 Mother again became very seriously sick and her health continued failing, until a year ago, on November 6, 1956, her condition was diagnosed by 4 doctors as cancer in advanced stage. She suffered continually but very intensely the last 20 hours. She was fully resigned to God's Will and accepted her suffering cheerfully and bore it courageously. She took every opportunity to witness for her Lord, even to the very last hour when she witnessed to her doctor who was at her bedside. She loved and trusted her Savior to the end. Her main concern was her family and that the work of the Lord might ever go forward. To us as a family she set an example which will always be of encouragement and will influence our lives.

On Nov. 4, 1957 at 2:05 p.m. the Lord saw fit to take her Home and relieve her of suffering. Her longing and prayers to go to be with the Lord was granted. She reached the age of 74 years and 1 month. During her long illness she was taken care of in her home.

She leaves to mourn her departure her husband, one daughter, Marie; one son Alfred; one daughter-in-law, Erna; and two granddaughters, Twyla and Treva.

We mourn not as those who have no hope for we know she has gone on to be with her Lord. Her favorite Bible verse was Isa. 40:31 "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles, they shall run, and not be weary: and they shall walk and not faint." The Eitzen Family