May 24, 1916-Dec. 14, 2012

Lorene Elizabeth Fuerst, 96, of Columbus Grove, died at 11:05 p.m. Friday at The Meadows of Kalida.

She was born May 24, 1916, in Ottoville, to Bernard and Lucy (Martin) Schulte, who preceded her in death.

On April 23, 1940, she married Norbert Fuerst, who died May 28, 1994.

Survivors include five children, Patricia (Karl) Schnipke of Toledo, James (Bonnie) Fuerst and Richard (Phyllis) Fuerst of Columbus Grove, Jane (Henry) Kaufman of Ottawa and Magdalen (Donald) Wehri of Kalida; a sister, Dolores VanOss of Ottoville; two sisters-in-law, Mary Lou Schulte of Delphos and Martha Fuerst of Columbus Grove; 22 grandchildren, Denise (Schnipke) Stark, Krista Schnipke, Arlene (Louth) Cress, Dean Louth, Sonya (Fuerst) Selhorst, James Fuerst, Steven Fuerst, Laura (Fuerst) Schumacher, Renae (Fuerst) Olivo, Nora (Fuerst) Altenburg, Teresa (Fuerst) Briggs, Julie (Fuerst) Schroeder, Mary (Fuerst) Cartwright, Melissa (Fuerst)Hughes, Michelle (Kaufman) Giesswein, Regina (Kaufman) Taylor, Bryan Kaufman, Sarah (Kaufman) Stechschulte, Kathryn (Wehri) Karhoff, Jennifer (Wehri) Salvina, Andrew Wehri, and Jillian Wehri; 48 great-grandchildren, Tyler and Tiffany Fligor, Andrew and Alyssa Stark, Andrew, Victoria and Alex Cress, Abigail, Elizabeth and Emily Louth, Will, Anna and Grace Selhorst, Owen, Zach, Lauren and Wyatt Fuerst, Brady, Breann and Ben Fuerst, Lydia and Jackson Schumacher, Anthony, Abigail and Elizabeth Stringfield, Sophia Olivo, Madison and Natalie Altenburg, Morgan Auchmuty, Miranda and Cayden Briggs, Landen, Levi, Zaine and Wynn Schroeder, Nathan, Hannah and Emma Cartwright, Karlie Hughes, Chandler and Dylan Giesswein, Ava and Parker Taylor, Grant Kaufman, Lillian and Easton Stechschulte, Grayson Karhoff and Lucas Salvina; and three stepgreatgrandchildren, Marcos Olivo; Victoria and Breanna Briggs.

She was also preceded in death by a sister, Loretta Smith; a brother, Henry Schulte; and a grandson, Bernard Fuerst.

As a child, Lorene attended the Jackson Township One-Room School, in Putnam County. A homemaker, she worked on the family farm with the love of her life, Norbert. She would gather eggs, sometimes as many as four to five thousand a day. She was a member of the St. Anthony Church, Columbus Grove, and its Altar Rosary Society. She loved working outdoors and was an avid flower gardener. Her other interest included, crocheting, baking, making homemade noodles, but nothing was more foremost than her faith and her family.

Mass of Christian burial will begin at 10 a.m. Tuesday at St. Anthony's Catholic Church, the Rev. Tom Extejt officiating. Burial will be in the church cemetery.

Friends may call 2-8 p.m. today at Hartman Sons Funeral Home, Columbus Grove, where a rosary will begin at 8 p.m.

Preferred memorials are to St. Anthony School Endowment Fund or St. Anthony Church.