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Anna Laura (Pettit) Magnani

Anna Laura Magnani passed away at the Sarah Ann Hester Home in Benkelman on Thursday at the age of 78 years. She was a lifelong resident of Cheyenne County, Kansas, living within a ten mile radius on Big Timber Creek, south of Benkelman. She entered the Hester Home in 1974.

Funeral services were held at the Jones Funeral Chapel on Monday afternoon with the Rev. Obed Walker officiating. Gwen Bauer was the organist and Lee Gallatin and John Baer, the singers. Casket hearers were Paul Ham, Albert Burkhalter, Wes Donahue, Arthur Burkhalter, Virgil Hatch and Harold Glasco. Interment was in the Benkelman Cemetery.

Anna Laura Magnani was the eldest child of Ernest L. Pettit and Lucy Chesley Pettit and was born on January 13, 1897 on a farm on Big Timber Creek in Cheyenne County, Kansas. She passed away at the Hester Memorial Home in Benkelman on July 3, 1975 at the age of 78 years, five months and 20 days.

She married R: Keenan on March 29, 1915 at Benkelman, Nebraska. To this union two sons were born, Jahew and Walter.

She married Alex R. Magnani on April 12, 1932 at St. Francis, Kansas and to this union was born one son, Sheridan.

She spent her entire life until she moved to the Hester Home on May 1, 1974 in Cheyenne County, Kansas within ten miles of where

she was born. She attended the Baker Sunday School for several years and spent her lifetime caring for her family and involving herself in such hobbies as her garden and flowers.

She is survived by her sons, Jahew Keenan of Nunn, Colorado, Walter and Vera

Mae Keenan of McKenny, Texas and Sheridan Magnani and wife Mary Ann of Benkelman, stepsons, Paul and Marybell Magnani of Oak View, California, Wayne and Rula Magnani, of Middletown, California and stepdaughter, Margie Magnani .of Alameda, California. Brothers, Ernest and Emma Pettit of LaCenter, Washington and James Pettit of Bird City, Kansas; sisters, Gertrude Maude Johnson of St. Francis, Kansas, Margaret and Steve Engelman of Three Forks. Montana, Mary and Henry Smith of LaCenter, Washington, Jody Pettit of Nunn, Colorado and Clarice Ashley of Warren, Arkansas. There are fifteen grandchjIdren and sixteen great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her father and mother, two sisters, three brothers and two grandsons.
