

PEORIA, IL - Clara Gabel Gilgan, 91, of Peoria passed away at 4:45 a.m. on Monday, Nov. 30, 2009, at Proctor Hospital.

She was born on Oct. 8, 1918, in Portland, Ind., to Cornelius and Mary Minch Gabel. She married Edward W. Gilgan on Jan. 8, 1949, in Chicago. He passed away on Feb. 4, 2005, in Peoria.

She also was preceded in death by one brother, Cornelius.

She is survived by two daughters, Veronica Gilgan of Peoria and Caroline (Thomas) Westphal of Creve Coeur, Mo.; and three grandchildren, Paul, Nicholas and Kevin.

Clara was a Professor of Dietetics at Bradley University for more than 30 years. She also was a registered dietician. She was a World War II U.S. Army veteran.

She was a member of St. Philomena Catholic Church, American Dietetic Association, American Heart Association and a volunteer at St. Philomena Food Pantry.

A funeral Mass will be at 12 noon on Wednesday, Dec. 2, 2009, at St. Philomena Church, with the Rev. Donald Henderson officiating. Graveside services will be at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday at Holy Trinity Cemetery in Bryant, Ind. Wright & Salmon Mortuary is in charge of arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to American Heart Association, American Lung Association or PAWS.

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Contributed by Tonya Sparks - no source listed