

The Life Story of --

George Arkfeld Sr., 86

PANAMA — George Arkfeld

son of Henry and Magdalena Blum Arkfeld, was born July 18, 1888, on a farm near Panama. He died Febr. 19, 1975 at Myrtue Memorial hospital in Harlan at age 86 years, 7 months and 1 day. George was baptized and confirmed at St. Mary's Catholic church in Panama. He attended the public school and grew to adulthood on the family farm. Mr Arkfeld married Mary Angela Siemer on Nov. 9, 1909, at Sacred Heart Catholic church in Templeton. To this union ten children were born. After their marriage, Mr and Mrs Arkfeld farmed for four years near Butte, Nebr., while living in a log cabin. They then moved back to the Panama area farming west of Panama until their retirement in 1970. Mr Arkfeld was a lifetime member of St. Mary's Catholic church in Panama and was an honorary member of Earling Council No. 1741 Knight's of Columbus.

Mr Arkfeld was preceded in death by his parents; two daughters - Lucille and Mary; five brothers - Peter, Mike, Frank, Edmund and Joe and two sisters - Sister Mary Magdalene O.S.B and Mary Arkfeld.

Survivors include his wife, Mary; four sons - Bishop Leo C. Arkfeld of Wewak, New Guinea, Vince Arkfeld of Omaha, Nebr., Clem Arkfeld of Panama, and George M. Arkfeld of Pasadena, Calif., four daughters - Florence (Mrs Jake Ohlinger) of Harlan, Celestine (Mrs Delbert Kohles) of San Bruno, Calif. Rita (Mrs Johnny Kelley) of Woodbine and Sylvia (Mrs Gerald Bissen) of Earling, 55 grandchildren and 70 great grandchildren; also by two brothers - John and Ben Arkfeld both of Panama, two sisters - Lena (Mrs Nicholas Reding) of Oklahoma City, Okla., and Anna (Mrs Louis Mages) of Avoca, nieces and nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Saturday, Febr. 22, 1975, at St. Mary's church in Panama with Rev. John Donaghey S.V.D. Provincial of the Northern S.V.D. Province as celebrant, and Rev Fred Rudolph S.V.D. homilist, with the final absolution given by the Most Rev Maurice J. Dingman, Bishop of the Des Moines Diocese. Other concelebrants were Msgr. Schwarte, Msgr. Schmitz, Fathers Reisz, Wingert, Kock, Palmer, Sims, Kelly, S.V.D. Fathers, Al Zimmerman, Carmen, Rudolph, Clerkin, Fineutter, Hanaher, S.V.D. Brothers, Celestin, Ray, Jerry, Tom, Zavier. Msgr. M.B. Schiltz was present in the sanctuary.

Burial was in St. Mary's cemetery with his grandsons - Ronald Kohles, Robert Ohlinger, Gene Arkfeld, Marvin Kelley, Dean Arkfeld and Robert Bissen serving as pallbearers. Rev Dominic Carmen S.V.D. officiating at the graveside services.