

# George J. Kohles, 97

**Earling** — George John Kohles, son of John and Anna (Duesel) Kohles was born on a farm near Westphalia, on July 4, 1880. He was baptized and confirmed at St. Boniface Catholic church in Westphalia. He attended St. Boniface school and grew to adulthood on his parent's farm. At the age of 16, he moved to Earling. On Aug. 24, 1902, he married Carrie M. Block at St. Joseph's church in Earling. Ten children were born to this union. After their marriage, Mr and Mrs Kohles made their home in Earling where George worked at various occupations including being a licensed embalmer, managing the jewelry store, operating a creamery in Earling and Charter Oak and serving as a sales representative for Morman's. In 1944, Mr and Mrs Kohles moved to Des Moines where George was employed as real estate salesman. After his wife's death in Jan. of 1959, he continued to live in Des Moines and this has been his home since that time. He died at Mercy hospital at age of 97 years, four months and nine days. While living in Earling, Mr Kohles was a member of St. Joseph's church and was a charter member of the Earling Council No. 1700, Knights of Columbus. After moving to Des Moines, he became a member of the All Saints Catholic church.

In addition to his parents and his wife, he was preceded in death by a daughter, Marie Wilwerding. His survivors include four sons - Art J. of Earling, August (Gus) of Denver, Fred of Springdale, Ark., and Frank of Los Altos, Calif.; five daughters - Louise (Mrs Dewey Weiland) of Earling, Hermenia (Mrs Ferd Bogner) of Crofton, Nebr.; Lynn (Mrs Phil Ryan) of Kerrville, Tex., Ernestine (Mrs Bernard Minahan) of Neola and Lucille (Mrs Patrick Swift) of Des Moines; 50 grandchildren and 110 great grandchildren, six brothers - John of Earling, Paul and Peter, both of Crofton, Nebr., Matt of Los Angeles, Calif., Joe of Maxwell, Calif., and Henry of Denison; two sisters - Ludvina Langenfeld of Earling and Sylvia Koppold of Harlan; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

A Concelebrated Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Joseph's church in Earling, on Wednesday, Nov. 16, 1977, with Rev. Duane Weiland as celebrant and Rev. Jon Kautzky and Rev. LaVern Wingert as concelebrants. Burial was in St. Joseph's cemetery with Steve Swift, Jerry Ryan, Leo Wilwerding, Ron Kohles, Mike Minahan and Kevin Kohles serving as casketbearers.