

Joseph V. Sonntag

PORTSMOUTH — Joseph Victor Sonntag, son of John and Bertha Kuhl Sonntag, was born on a farm near Westphalia, on April 26, 1895. He died at the Manilla Manor Nursing Home in Manilla, on Febr. 27, 1977 at age 81 years, 10 months and one day. He was baptized and confirmed at St. Boniface Catholic church in Westphalia. He attended country school and St. Boniface school and grew to adulthood on his parent's farm. On May 11, 1920, he married Ina Potter at St. Mary's church in Panama. After their marriage, Mr and Mrs Sonntag farmed near Westphalia until 1946 when Mr Sonntag had surgery and was forced to retire. They then moved to Council Bluffs and this was their home for the next 14 years. While there, Mr and Mrs Sonntag worked at St. Joseph's hospital in Omaha. In 1960 they purchased a home in Avoca and it was here they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 1970. They moved to Manilla in 1971 and in 1974 they lived in Council Bluffs for a short time before making their home in Portsmouth for a couple years. While in Portsmouth, Mr Sonntag became a member of St. Mary's church. He and Mrs Sonntag became residents of Manilla Manor in Oct. of 1976 and this has been his home since that time.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by four sisters - Mary Goeser, Margaret Herbst, Ann Kenkel and Lena Wilke; and by a brother, Ben Sonntag. Survivors include his wife, Ina of Manilla; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Mary's church in Portsmouth, on Wednesday, March 2, 1977, with Rev. Edward R. Kelly as celebrant. Burial was in St. Mary's cemetery at Panama, with Dan Herbst, Don Herbst, Gary Wilke, Terry Herbst, David Herbst and Robert Wilke serving as pallbearers.