

Theodore J. Anastasi, 71

May 4, 1929 - Jan. 17, 2001

HARLAN – Theodore "Ted" Anastasi was born May 4, 1929, to Theresa (Von Tersch) and Henry Anastasi on a farm near Westphalia. He was baptized and confirmed at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Westphalia. A 1948 graduate of Harlan Community High School, he also attended Dowling Catholic High School in Des Moines from 1945-46.

Nov. 27, 1950, he married Martha Ann Stein at St. Mary Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church in Portsmouth. To this union two children were born. The couple farmed near Harlan, living on the farm until 1975, when they moved to Harlan. In addition to the farm operation, he was the proprietor of the Anastasi Trailer Court and A & A Fur Business. After 25 years of farming, he retired in 1981, but continued to operate the trailer court and fur business until he became ill in 1997. For the past nine years, Ted and his son-in-law, Bruce Burger, shared partnership in A & B Housing located in Harlan. He was a longtime member of St. Michael's Catholic Church in Harlan, and a 4th Degree member of the Luke E. Hart Assembly, Knights of Columbus, and Chalice Club Member of Defiance. He died Jan. 17, 2001, at Elm Crest Retirement Community where he had just recently become a resident at age 71 years, eight months and 15 days.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his son, Ted, Jr.; his brothers, Omar, Oscar, Gerald, Francis and Dick; and one sister, Maryalce. He is survived by his wife, Martha Anastasi of Harlan; his daughter, Linda (Bruce) Burger of Harlan; three grandsons, Galen Gaer and his fiancé, Michelle Ritter of Kirkman; Kelly Gaer (Elaine) of Manhattan, KS and Nicholas Gaer of Des Moines; one great grandson, Brett Gaer of Harlan; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held Jan. 20, 2001, at St. Michael's Catholic Church with Rev. Howard Fitzgerald celebrating. Burial was in the Harlan Cemetery with Nick Gaer, Brett Gaer, Kelly Gaer, Elaine Gaer, Vic Brown, Galen Gaer, Michelle Ritter and Bruce Burger honorary casket bearers. Casket bearers were Jim Anastasi, Jay Frederick, Dennis Anastasi, Michael Morton, Marvin Schmitz, Michael Stein, Judy Morton and Dawn Winnett. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

