

## **Edmund Bieker, 77**

**April 11, 1913 — Feb. 11, 1991**

**DEFIANCE** - Edmund August Bieker, son of Henry and Blanche (Keairnes) Bieker was born April 11, 1913, at Earling. At the age of two years, he moved with his parents to Defiance. He attended St. Paul's School in Defiance, and graduated in 1932.

June 27, 1940, he married Helen Leuschen at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Panama. Five children were born to this union. He worked as a lineman for the Defiance Telephone Company, and also for Defiance Produce for a time. In 1945, he became employed at Harlan Contracting as a carpenter, a position he held for the next 30 years. After he retired in 1975, they continued to make their home in Defiance. In addition to being a member of St. Peter's Catholic Church, he was also active on the finance committee of the church, and the Holy Name Society. He was also active in the Senior Citizens. At the age of 13, he was an honorary member of the Defiance Volunteer Fire Dept., and was in charge of sounding the fire alarm. He later became a regular member of the fire department, serving for many years. He died Feb. 11, 1991, at the Jennie Edmundson Hospital in Co. Bluffs, at age 77 years and ten months.

Preceding him in death were his parents. He is survived by his wife, Helen of Defiance; two daughters, Alice (Mrs Ernest) Journell of Pearisburg, VA., and Julia (Mrs William) Schaben of Defiance; three sons, Dan (Jean) Bieker of Harlan; Arthur (Mary) and Robert (Margaret) Bieker, both of Omaha, NE.; 12 grandchildren; one great-granddaughter; two sisters, Dorothy (Mrs Del) Stenzel of Plainfield, IL., and Irene Hansen of Harlan; one brother, Leo Bieker (Mildred) of Harlan; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was concelebrated Feb. 14, 1991 at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance with Rev. Paul Bianchi as the celebrant. Concelebrating was Rev. Richard Wolbach, Rev. John A. Flynn, and Rev. Chuck Kottas. Burial was in Sts. Peter and Paul cemetery with Bill Fahn, Jim Hansen, Lefty Loehr, Leonard Wells, Bob Wilwerding, Charles Coenen, Jack Kirschbaum, and Jerald "Bud" Bieker honorary casketbearers. Casketbearers were Joe Fahn, Jim Bieker, Brian Bieker, Craig Bieker, Rick Coenen and John Leuschen, Jr. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.