

Bernard Blum, 73

Dec. 30, 1941 - March 1, 2015

WESTPHALIA — Bernard

"Bernie" Norbert Blum, was born on December 30, 1941 to William and Laurina (Britten) Blum in Westphalia. He was baptized and confirmed at St. Boniface Catholic Church where he also attended Catholic School through the tenth grade when he began helping his dad on the farm as well as neighboring farms. He left home at the age of sixteen to attend a universal trade school for mechanics in Kansas City, MO. In 1962, he moved back to Westphalia. He had a love for mechanics and worked several jobs including a brief time as an aircraft mechanic for Skyharbor.



Bernie was married in 1964 and became a father to five children: Joe, Bob, Kim, Kelli, and John. In 1972, he obtained his Commercial Driver's License (CDL), bought a semi, and enjoyed driving over the road for several years, sometimes being able to take the kids with. He loved the West Coast and in 1985, moved to Portland, OR, later settling in Ocean Park, WA. He bought a restaurant/tavern and operated it until coming back to Iowa. He loved the ocean, fishing, the mountains, and just being in the great outdoors. He loved his children dearly. He loved to tease people and was known for his jokes and pranks and his smile that could light up a room. Bernie became a resident of Westmont Care Center in Logan, where he died on Sunday, March 1, 2015, having attained the age of seventy-three years, two months, and one day.

Bernie was preceded in death by his parents and his brother Francis. He is survived by his children: Joe Blum and his wife Marlene of Council Bluffs, Bob Blum and his wife Patty of Council Bluffs, Kim and her husband Jeff Coleman of Woodbine, Kelli and her husband Shane Steinkuehler of Woodbine, and John Blum of Woodbine; eleven grandchildren; ten great-grandchildren; brothers: Kenneth Blum and his wife Doris of Walnut, Jerry Blum and his wife Jean of Auburn, Marcus Blum and his wife Janet of Fischer, TX, Ralph Blum and his wife Patti of Harlan, Eugene Blum and his wife Jackie of Westphalia, and Michael Blum and his wife Vicky of Council Bluffs; sisters: Mary Ann and her husband Vernon Sandbothe of Atlantic, Margaret and her husband Robert Halferty of Vancouver, WA, Agnes Starr of Milwaukee, WI, Monica and her husband Lanny Newland of Persia, Linda and her husband John White of Council Bluffs, and Theresa Miller of Colorado Springs, CO; other family members and friends.

Rev. David Smith, S. J. celebrated the 11:00 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial on Friday, March 6, 2015 at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Westphalia. Musicians were Ron and Maria Rosman with soloist Sue Bendickt and song leader Lorene Kaufman. Inurnment was held at St. Boniface Cemetery.



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