

Richard "Dick" Bruck, 75

March 2, 1930 - June 7, 2005

EARLING — Richard "Dick" Fred Bruck, son of Charles and Margaret Mary (Blum) Bruck, was born March 2, 1930, on his parents' farm three miles southeast of Earling. He was baptized and confirmed in his Christian faith and received his First Holy Communion at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling. He attended country school and later St. Joseph's Catholic School in Earling. In 1944, Dick's parents purchased a farm four miles east of Earling, where he grew up helping his parents.

Feb. 12, 1952, Dick married Zita Rau at St. Mary Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church in Portsmouth. To this union, nine children were born. After their marriage, they lived on his parents' farm. They milked cows, raised cattle, farrowed sows, raised sheep, had laying hens and butchered thousands of chickens that they sold throughout the community, along with crop farming. Dick also sold seed corn, worked at Western Iowa Pork, B&B Farm Supply in Earling and Variety Distributors in Harlan. In the early 1970's, Dick and Zita operated the Hy-Way Cafe in Earling, with the help of their children. In 1972, Dick and Zita purchased the farm from his parents. He was proud to call this farm home for 60 years. The Bruck family is widely known for their beautiful Christmas light displays, that they did for many years. In January of 2005, Dick became a resident of Little Flower Haven and it was there that he died June 7, 2005, at age 75 years, three months and five days.

In addition to his parents, Dick was preceded in death by his brothers, Leonard, Alfred "Farmer" and George; granddaughter, Jennifer Obrecht, and son-in-law, Tom Obrecht. Survivors include his wife, Zita Bruck of Earling; his children, Rick Bruck (Barbara) of Manilla; Margaret (Marlin) Petersen of Kirkman; Rose (Quinten) Christensen; Wayne Bruck and his friend, Linda; Marilyn (Dan) Martin; Randy Bruck and his friend, Marsha; Steve Bruck and his friend, Karla, all of Harlan; Eric Bruck (Patti) of Storm Lake; Cheryl Bruck and her fiancé, Terry Koppold of Harlan; 21 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; his brothers and sister, Lavern (Shorty) Bruck (Betty) of Irwin; Gerald Bruck (Velma) of Earling; and Mary Ann Schwery of Panama; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated June 10, 2005, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling, with Rev. Michael Berner celebrant. Burial was in St. Joseph's Cemetery in Earling, with the 15 remaining grandchildren honorary casket bearers. Casket bearers were Josh Bruck, Steven Obrecht, Tom Arkfeld, Jeremy Bruck, Kyle Martin and Kyle Christensen. Pauley Jones Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.