

Robert Cairney, 72 ✓

EARLING - Robert James Cairney, son of Alfred and Mary Julia (Kirwin) Cairney was born July 9, 1917 at Morris, MN. He was baptized, received his First Communion and was confirmed at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Morris and attended Morris High School, graduating in 1935. After high school, he worked in Morris.

Feb. 7, 1939, he married Irene Geheren at Holy Rosary Catholic Church, Graceville, MN. They had 11 children. After their marriage, he worked as a mechanic for Northwest Airlines in Anchorage, AK., during WW II. After the war, they moved to Johnson, MN., where they owned and operated a restaurant and bar. Later, they sold the restaurant and bar, and he worked as a manager for Cargill Grain Company in Johnson. In 1949, the family moved to Portsmouth, and he continued his work for Cargill. In 1966, they moved to Earling where he managed Thrasher Feed and Grain, later Sullivan Feed and Grain. He retired in 1985, they continued to make their home in Earling. They celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in Feb. of last year.

He died May 22, 1990 at Bishop Clarkson Memorial Hospital, Omaha, NE., at age 72 years, 10 months and 13 days. He was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Earling.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by an infant son, Daniel; a infant sister, Eleanor Barbara Cairney, and a son-in-law, Sveinn May. Surviving are his wife, Irene, Earling; seven sons, Richard of Iowa City; Robert of Chicago, IL.; John of Co. Bluffs; Patrick of Atchison, KS.; Ralph of Mt. Horeb, WI.; Michael of Earlville, and Tony of Westphalia; three daughters, Julia May of LaVista, NE.; Barbara (Wayne Lee) and Nancy (Andy) Schwery, both of Walhalla, S.C.; 29 grandchildren; three sisters, Jean (Bob) Guter of Morris, MN.; Marian (Vern) Cadwell of Lebanon, OR., and Nancy (Otto) Trettel of Minnetonka, MN.; two brothers, Jim Cairney of Burnsville, MN., and Thomas Cairney of Fort Dodge; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was concelebrated May 24, 1990 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Earling with Rev. Chuck Kottas as celebrant and Rev. Paul Bianchi concelebrating. Burial was in St. Mary's cemetery, Portsmouth, Donnie Lee, Danny Neill, Jim Cairney, Greg Cairney and Jeremy Cairney served as honorary casketbearers. Serving as casketbearers were George Neill, Nate Cairney, Doug Cairney, Brian Cairney, Jason Cairney and Stephen Cairney. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.