

Francis J. Crahan, 83

AVOCA - Francis Joseph Crahan was born in Emerson, NE on April 25, 1905, the son of William and Nell Ryan Crahan. He was one of six children in the family. He attended school in Emerson and graduated from Sacred Heart High School, Emerson in 1923. He attended Creighton University in Omaha for one year before transferring to the University of Nebraska in Lincoln, where he attended Pharmacy School. Following his graduation he worked in drug stores in Lexington, NE and Emerson, NE until moving to Shenandoah, where he worked at the Leacox and Redfield Corner Drug Store.

June 9, 1931, he married Sara Sherlock at Emerson, NE. During WW II he served in the U.S. Navy. After the war he returned to Shenandoah where he worked until he purchased the Wendt Drug Store in Avoca in 1947. He operated it as Crahan Drug Store. He sold the store in 1971. He was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church, Avoca, Fred Funston American Legion Post #227 and Pottawattamie County WW II Last Man's Club. He made his home in Avoca until moving to Peace Haven Retirement Home in Walnut where he died March 22, 1989 at age 83 years.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Sara in 1953; one brother, Herbert Crahan; three sisters, Mary Sheehan, Mabel Bolte and Helen Crahan and a half sister, Katie. He is survived by seven nieces and nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was concelebrated March 27, 1989 at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Avoca by Archbishop Daniel E. Sheehan and Rev. Phillip Lawler, with William Anderson, James Anderson, Scott Corder, Herman Harvey, Terry Carley and Dan Offenberger as casketbearers. Burial was in Graceland cemetery, Avoca. Burthusen-Knutson Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.