

## **Charles Coenen, 71**

*Oct. 24, 1931 - May 15, 2003*

**DEFIANCE** – Charles William Coenen, the son of Carl E. and Margaret Kimmen Coenen, was born Oct. 24, 1931, in Defiance, and was one of nine children in the family. He was baptized and confirmed at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance. He attended school at St. Paul's High School in Defiance and graduated with the class of 1949. After high school, March 19, 1952, he joined the U.S. Navy and was honorably discharged March 31, 1953. After being discharged from the service, Charles moved to Charles City, where he attended Lynotype school. He returned to Harlan after his schooling and went to work for the Harlan Newspapers. He was co-owner of a hardware store in Defiance and also worked for St. Peter's Church in Defiance. Charles became a resident of the Iowa Veteran's Home in Marshalltown, in 1997. He was a member of St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance and the American Legion Post #707 in Defiance. Charles died May 15, 2003, at the Marshalltown Medical and Surgical Center at age 71 years, six months and 22 days.

In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by his brother, Delbert Coenen; three sisters, Wilma Rogers, Marian Barry and Norma Hansen. He is survived by his brother, Donald Coenen (Jackie) of Harlan; his sisters, Marge Rosenthal of Omaha, NE; Connie (Donald) Petty of Omaha, NE; and Ellen (Dennis) Dotzler also of Omaha, NE; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held May 19, 2003, at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance, with Rev. Michael Berner officiating. Casket bearers were John Goeser, John Wells, Mike Kimmen, Bob Weis, Bud Weis and Charlie Goetzinger. Burial was held at Sts. Peter and Paul Cemetery in Defiance, with military graveside rites by the American Legion Post #707 of Defiance. Pauley Jones Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.