

✓ **James C. Goetz, Sr., 54**

July 18, 1947 - Feb. 18, 2002

DEFIANCE – James Craig Goetz, Sr., son of Donald and Joyce (Koppold) Goetz, was born July 18, 1947, in a hospital in Manilla. He was baptized and confirmed at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance. He contracted polio at the young age of five. He graduated from St. Paul's High School in Defiance. He was very active in 4-H, showing livestock from 1960 to 1965, when he graduated from high school. He farmed with his father and went to the hog market every day.

He married Jolene Herbst July 3, 1967, in Lenox. Two children were born to this union, Michelle and James, Jr. He drove a truck with livestock for his father's business until his truck accident in 1973. He also kept the books for the hog market while in operation. He died Feb. 18, 2002, at the Midlands Hospital in Papillion, NE, at age 54 years and seven months.

He was preceded in death by his parents. Survivors include his children, Michelle (Mark) Sullivan of Kevil, KY; James Goetz, Jr. (Leslie) of Portsmouth; three grandchildren, Jacob and Jessica Sullivan and Lake Goetz; his brothers and sister, Gene Goetz (Jan) of Minneapolis, MN; Terry Goetz (Pam) of Defiance; Donajoy (Gregg) Anderson of Omaha, NE; David Goetz of Cleveland, OH; nine nieces and nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Feb. 22, 2002, at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance, with Rev. Michael Berner celebrant. Burial was in Sts. Peter and Paul Cemetery in Defiance, with Merle Thrasher, Roger Heller, Marvin Musich, Gail Foxhoven, Tobe Schaben, Erv Pauley, Sr., Ron Arkfeld, Dan Grote, Ron Schaben, the late John Heller and Erv Pauley, Jr. honorary casket bearers. Casket bearers were Keith Finken, Rick Bruck, Scott Shanahan, Jack Goetz, Denny Kloewer and John Pauley. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

