

Bernard P. Goetzinger, 91

March 11, 1906 - Feb. 16, 1998

PORTSMOUTH - Bernard Peter Goetzinger, son of Nicholas and Elizabeth (Friedman) Goetzinger, was born March 11, 1906, at Templeton. He was baptized and confirmed at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Templeton and attended Sacred Heart Catholic School and graduated from Creighton Prep High School in 1925.

July 1, 1930, he married Melania Leinen at Sacred Heart Church in Templeton. He worked on the railroad, then owned and operated an oil station and also a cafe in Templeton, known as Ben's Cafe. They made their home in Templeton until 1942, when they moved to Omaha, where he was employed at Gate City Steel and also Martin Bomber Plant. After retiring in 1969, the couple moved to Portsmouth, where Melania died Jan. 13, 1979. Following her death he moved into the Senior Citizen Apartments, living there until he became a resident of Little Flower Haven Nursing Home Feb. 17, 1994. He was a member of the St. Mary Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church in Portsmouth, the Knights of Columbus, Earling Council #1741 and a member of the Luke E. Hart General Assembly 4th Degree Knights of Columbus and its Chalice Club. He died Feb. 16, 1998, at Little Flower Haven Nursing Home at 91 years, 11 months and five days.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Melania; his brothers and sisters, John, Mary, Joseph, Matt, Bill, Anton, Peter, Margaret, Frank, Lizzie and Nick. Survivors include his sisters-in-law, Marie Dubrall of Manilla; Clara Petersen (Ernest) of Harlan; Viola Leinen (Zeno) of Harlan; Modesta Green of Spencer; Ann Rattenberg of Fargo, ND; Margaret Mester of Los Angeles, CA and Dorothy Leinen of Earling; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was concelebrated Feb. 18, 1998, at St. Mary Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church in Portsmouth, with Msgr. Edward Kelly celebrant and Rev. Michael Berner concelebrant. Burial was in St. Mary's Cemetery in Portsmouth, with Joe Gubbels, Richard Leinen, Steve Goetzinger, Ronald Reinig, James Leinen and Craig Petersen casket bearers. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

