

## Charles Goetzinger, 76

Sept. 25, 1929 - April 8, 2006

**DEFIANCE** — Charles "Charlie" Michael Goetzinger, the son of Joseph and Catherine (Blum) Goetzinger, was born Sept. 25, 1929, in Defiance. He was baptized and confirmed at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance. He attended country school and then St. Paul's Catholic School in Defiance, graduating with the class of 1947. Upon graduation, he worked for the railroad. Sept. 25, 1951, Charlie was inducted into the United States Army at Omaha, NE. He served during the Korean Conflict and was awarded the Korean Service Medal with three bronze service stars, United Nations Service Medal, and the Combat Medical Badge. He was honorably discharged June 24, 1953, at Camp Carson, CO.



Aug. 20, 1960, Charlie married Eunice J. Heithoff at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Elgin, NE. After their marriage, the couple made their home in Defiance, and have remained there since that time. Charlie worked for the Milwaukee Railroad until retiring in 1980. He and Eunice then ran the Unity Café in Manilla. Charlie later was employed at Dubuque Pack and then the 59'er Restaurant in Harlan. Most recently, he worked at the Rusty Nail and Tobe's Place. He was a lifelong member of St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance and the American Legion Post No. 707 of Defiance and Westphalia. He died April 8, 2006, at his home in Defiance at age 76 years, six months and 13 days.

In addition to his parents, Charlie was preceded in death by his brothers and sisters, Irene Backhaus, Elizabeth "Lizzie" Kloewer, Clara "Carrie" Kloewer, Lucille Hoxworth, Lavern "Dick" Goetzinger, Marcella "Sally" Foley, Edward "Dickie" Goetzinger, Josephine Heller, Clela "Sis" Goetzinger, Rose Rasmussen, Helen "Holly" Kaufman, and LeRoy Goetzinger. Survivors include his wife, Eunice of Defiance; his daughter, Julie Tigges of Harlan; his grandsons, Jamie McCullough (Amy) of Ames; Jesse McCullough and his fiancé Jessica Schmidt of Omaha, NE; Justin Tigges of Defiance; his brother, Virgil Goetzinger (Irene) of Alma, MI; sister-in-law, Agnes Goetzinger of Westphalia; and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated April 11, 2006, at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance with Rev. Robert Gralapp celebrant. Military Rites were conducted in Sts. Peter & Paul Cemetery in Defiance, by the American Legion Post No. 707 of Defiance and Westphalia. Honorary casket bearers were Don and Mickey Kloewer, Bob and Karen Kloewer, Wes and JoAnn Walker, MaryAnn Kloewer, and Bob Tigges. Casket bearers were Charles Goetzinger, Jeff Tigges, Mark Goetzinger, Ron Schaben, Arnie Heithoff, and Ken Foley. Pauley Jones Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.