

Norbert M. Gross, 86

Dec. 9, 1910 - Jan. 26, 1997 ✓

DEFIANCE - Norbert Mathew Gross, son of Joseph P. and Mary Engle Gross, was born Dec. 9, 1910, at Earling. He was baptized and confirmed at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling and attended Union No. 4 School during the winter months and St. Joseph's School in Earling after the roads were passable.

Jan. 4, 1938, he married Dolores Schnuettgen at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance. To this union four sons and four daughters were born. After their marriage, they made their home south of Buck Grove until 1941, when they moved south of Earling. In 1945, they moved to their present home north of Defiance. He retired from farming in 1962, and was employed by Crows Hybrid Corn Company as a district manager, retiring in 1978. He was a member of St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance. He was very active in the community serving as District Deputy of four councils, a past president of Holy Name Society, past president of the Silver Tops Senior Citizen Club and was an active 4-H leader of the Defiance Soil Masters for eight years. In 1947, he joined the Knights of Columbus in Denison, and in 1948, the 4th Degree of Co. Bluffs. He was also a member of the Luke E. Hart General Assembly of Defiance and its chalice club and was the organizer of the Columbian Squires for two years at Denison. He died at his home Jan. 26, 1997, at age 86 years, one month and 17 days.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his son, Samuel; his sisters, Anna Hagerberger, Clara Scheuring and Gertrude Coenen; his brothers, Michael, Andrew, Leonard and Werner Gross. Surviving are his wife, Dolores Gross of Defiance; his children, Thomas Gross of Defiance; James Gross (Norma) of Manilla; Marcelleen (Fred) Youngman of Dale, TX; Mary Jane Brody of Omaha, NE; Randall Gross (Virginia) of Rock Falls, IL; Virginia (Paul) Kruse of Harlan; Lorie (Scott) Bandow of Manilla; 23 grandchildren and two step great grandchildren; his brothers, Emil Gross (Aquinata) of Westphalia; Alban Gross (Lavina) of Earling; Marcus Gross (Naomi) of Harlan and Charles Gross (Carol) of Temple City, CA; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was concelebrated Jan. 29, 1997, at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance, with Rev. Ken Gross celebrant and Rev. Thomas Crowley homilist. Concelebrating was Rev. Mike Berner and Rev. Robert Gralapp, assisted by Rev. Mr. Pat Davitt. Burial was in Sts. Peter and Paul Cemetery with Tanya Kruse, Tiffany Bandow, Tammy Gross, Jaime Kruse, Teresa Walton, Christy Gross, Angela Bandow, Stefanie Gross and Cameron Gross honorary casket bearers. Casket bearers were Rick Gross, Shawn Brody, Doug Gross, John Brody, Bruce Gross, Steve Gross and Paul Youngman. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

