

Mark Kenkel, 78

Oct. 8, 1920 - Aug. 17, 1999

MANILLA - Mark Louis, son of Theodore and Clara Eckerman Kenkel, was born Oct. 8, 1920, in Earling. He attended schools in Defiance and then graduated from high school in Epworth in 1938. He then attended college in Girard, PA. Following his schooling he was drafted into the United States Navy and served at Great Lakes Naval Station in Illinois. After his honorable discharge Mark returned to Defiance and began farming.

Sept. 1, 1948, he married Bernadine Margaret Fuhs in Portsmouth. Nine children were born to this union. They farmed near Portsmouth and then Manilla, where they raised their children. In 1981 Mark retired and they moved into Manilla. Bernadine died July 1, 1998. He was a member of Sacred Heart Church and was active in the Holy Name Society, Sacred Heart Choir, and the 4th Degree Knights of Columbus. He was also a member of the Manilla Community Club and the American Legion. May 1, 1998, he entered the Manilla Manor Nursing Home and died there Aug. 17, 1999, at age 78 years, 10 months and nine days.

Besides his parents and wife, he is preceded in death by his aunt, Elizabeth Kenkel, and a granddaughter, Allison Kenkel. He is survived by nine children, Cynthia (Jim) Salter of Moline, IL; Ronald Kenkel (Jan) of Oakland; Gloria (Bob) Muff of New Providence; Jullia (Bob) Schmitz of Harlan; Marcia (Art) Pontier of Osceola; Sylvia (Dave) Sporrer of Templeton; Roger Kenkel (Gail) of Manilla; Rodney Kenkel (Julie) of Shenandoah and Maria (Vic) Jewell of Fort Dodge; 21 grandchildren; three brothers, Ray Kenkel (Evelyn) of Co. Bluffs; Ted Kenkel (Judy) of Co. Bluffs; Joe Kenkel (Alice) of West Point, NE; six sisters, Marie (Virgil) Buettel of Manning; Velma (Les) Pederson of Denison; Terese Scheuring of Defiance; Leona (Joe) Moran of Honey Creek; Clarice (Fred) Hansen of Waterloo; JoAnn (Don) Kuehnhold of Denison; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Aug. 21, 1999, at the Sacred Heart Church, Manilla, with Father Robert Gralapp, Father Lloyd White and Father Robert Fangman officiating. Burial was in the Mount Olivet Cemetery, Manilla, with military honors by the American Legion Post 132, Manilla. Casket bearers were Troy Muff, Jeremy Kenkel, Greg Schmitz, Travis Muff, Jeff Schmitz, Chad Pontier, Kyle Kenkel, Ryan Pontier and Cody Kenkel. Ohde Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.