

## Donald Kloewer, 77

May 25, 1932 - June 5, 2009

**DEFIANCE** — Donald John Kloewer, son of Aloys and Eva (Peerman) Kloewer, was born on May 25, 1932, in Earling. He was one of thirteen children. Donald was baptized and confirmed at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance, and graduated from St. Peter's High School. February 16, 1953, Don was drafted into the United States Army in Omaha, NE. While in the army, Don was awarded the Korean Service Medal, United Nations Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, and the Good Conduct Medal. Don was honorably discharged on December 16, 1954, having attained the rank of Sergeant.

April 11, 1955, Donald was united in marriage to Mildred "Mickey" Sonderman at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance. Three children were born to this union: Denny, Dean, and Diane. After their wedding, Don and Micky made their home in Defiance where Don worked in the plumbing and heating business. In 1955, Don started a cesspool plumbing service in Defiance. Don was a member of St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance, where he served on the Church Council. He was also very active with the town of Defiance and served on the town council for ten years, was a member of the volunteer fire department, and the Defiance and Westphalia American Legion Post No. 707 of Defiance. Don enjoyed going fishing, watching sports, telling stories and jokes and spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He had a great sense of humor and was a loving husband, father, grandfather, brother and friend. Don died on Friday, June 5, 2009, at Myrtue Medical Center in Harlan, having attained the age of seventy-seven years and eleven days.

Don is preceded in death by his parents; his son Dean; and his granddaughter Heather Kloewer. He is survived by his wife Mickey of Defiance; their children Dennis (Denise) Kloewer of Irwin, and Diane (Stu) Sprick of Ft. Calhoun, NE; four grandchildren: Jeromy Kloewer, Keri Ahrenholtz, Tony and Alex Sprick; five great-grandchildren: Connor and Marshall Kloewer, Dakota Cadwell, and Ryley and Ryan Ahrenholtz; his siblings: Kay (Jack) Cook of Omaha, NE; Janette (Robert) Dotzler of Defiance; Dorothy (Bill) Johnston of Omaha, NE; Lorrene (Bernard) Assmann of Dunlap; Jane (Eldon) Meyer of Lees Summit, MO; Joan (Jack) Strudthoff of Woodstock, GA; Bob (Karen) Kloewer of Defiance; Mary Ann (Clyde) Meyer of Omaha, NE; Suzanne (Bert) Lehan of Marcus; John (Annette) Kloewer and Rick (Nancy) Kloewer all of Defiance; his brother-in-law Gene Richards of Bellevue, NE; nieces; nephews; other family members and many friends.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Tuesday, June 9, 2009, at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance. The 10:30 AM Mass was celebrated by Rev. Tom Coenen and concelebrated by Rev. Bob



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Hoefler. Acting as honorary casket bearers were Don's grandchildren: Tony Sprick, Alex Sprick, Jeromy Kloewer, and Keri Ahrenholtz. Serving as casket bearers were: Mike Schulte, Jean Croghan, Mike Dotzler, Sara Kloewer, Dan Richards, Scott Kloewer, Pat Kloewer, Frank Powers, Ken Kloewer and Jeff Sonderman. Military Rites were held following the Mass by the Defiance and Westphalia American Legion Post No. 707. Private graveside services will be held at a later date.



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