

## Ralph Pauley, 81

Feb. 10, 1926 - Aug. 8, 2007

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**WOODBINE** - Ralph Theodore Pauley, Sr. was born Feb. 10, 1926, in Shelby County near Panama to Hubert and Anna (Mickels) Pauley. He graduated from St. Mary's Catholic High School in Panama. He began farming with his brother, Albert, near Tennant. Feb. 27, 1946, Ralph married Veronica Gau at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance. They farmed near Tennant, then east of Panama. After moving to Defiance, Ralph purchased the Standard Tank Wagon and operated that for six years. The family then moved to Westphalia where he was the custodian for the parish. They later farmed east of Westphalia before buying a farm east of Woodbine in January 1971. He also did carpentry work and drove the school bus for the Harlan and Woodbine schools. In 1996, the couple moved into Woodbine. He sold cemetery monuments for Bloom Monument Company and worked as a janitor at the Woodland Apartments for a number of years. He became a resident of Rose Vista Nursing Home in November of 2004. Ralph was a member of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Woodbine and had served as an usher there. The couple were members of the Woodbine and Missouri Valley dance clubs. He died Aug. 8, 2007, at the Rose Vista Nursing Home at age 81 years, five months and 29 days.

Ralph was preceded in death by his parents; daughter, Mary Williams; infant son, Gerard; grandson, Scott Williams; and brothers, Leo, Albert, Zeno and Fred. He is survived by his wife, Veronica Pauley of Woodbine; five children, Ron (Donna) Pauley of Shelby; Don (Helga) Pauley of Colorado Springs, CO; Shirley (Tom) Schwertley of Logan; Ralph Jr. (Shelli) Pauley; and Jeff Pauley all of Woodbine; son-in-law, Bruce Williams of Woodbine; 14 grandchildren, Don Jr., Stefanie, Robert, Mark, Brenda, Rhonda, Scott (deceased), Chad, Jennifer, Ryan, Gina, Kyle, Melissa and Vincent; 11 great-grandchildren; two sisters, Mary Ann Weis of Woodbine and Marcella Schmitz of Harlan; brother, Andy and Grace Pauley of Panama and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held Aug. 11, 2007, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Woodbine, with Rev. Paul Strittmatter, SJ, celebrant. Honorary casket bearers were Linda Croy, Donna Fullerton, Dan Pauley, Ken Pauley, Roger Schmitz, Rodney Weis and Ralph's 14 grandchildren. Casket bearers were Ronald Pauley, Donald Pauley, Ralph Pauley, Jr., Jeff Pauley, Tom Schwertley, Sr., Bruce Williams. Burial was in the Woodbine Cemetery. Fouts Funeral Home in Woodbine in charge of arrangements.