

Lavern Peter Feser, 80

March 3, 1915 - June 16, 1995

Defiance - Lavern Peter Feser, son of Henry and Magdalena (Schaben) Feser was born March 3, 1915 at Panama. He was baptized and confirmed in the Catholic faith. Lavern attended school and grew to adulthood in the Defiance area.

Oct. 4, 1937 he married Beulah Evelyn Bonham at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Missouri Valley. To this union six children were born. After their marriage they lived a Defiance and he worked at odd jobs, mechanic and farming. In 1942 they moved to Missouri Valley and he worked for the Chicago Western Railroad as locomotive mechanic out of Co. Bluffs. In March of 1944 he was inducted into the U.S. Army and served with the military police guarding prisoners of war. He received his honorable discharge Jan. 23, 1946 returning to work for the railroad. They moved to a farm near Buck Grove in the spring of 1948. In 1972 they retired and built their new home in Defiance. He was a member of St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance. In June of 1994 he became a resident of Manilla Manor transferring to Friendship Manor in Audubon Feb. 24, 1995. It was there that he died June 16, 1995 at age 80 years, three months and 13 days.

In addition to his parents and his wife - Beulah, who died May 13, 1995, he was preceded in death by two sons, Dwayne and Lyle; brothers and sisters - Elvera Feser, Raymond Feser, Aldron Feser and Lucille Ernest. Surviving are his children - Carol (Larry) Schimerowski of Earling; Linda (Jim) Duncan of Manilla; Deanna (Larry) Stessman, Brian Feser and a daughter-in-law, Janet Feser all of Defiance; 21 grandchildren and seven great grandchildren; brother and sisters - Leo Feser of Defiance; Mary Ella Brummer of Dow City; Ann Thompson of Gretna, LA and Pauline Bissen of Defiance; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated June 19, 1995 at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance with Rev. Tom Crowley celebrating. Burial was in the Calhoun Cemetery, Harrison County, with Jeff Feser, Chad Feser, Brad Feser, Bruce Feser, Kevin Schimerowski, Scott Schimerowski, Tim Schimerowski, Karl Heiman, Paul Heiman and Mike Stessman casket bearers. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.