

Robert Nicholas Finken, 89



Feb. 17, 1929 - Sept. 10, 2018

EARLING – Robert Nicholas Finken, son of Matilda (Heese) and John Finken, was born February 17, 1929 in Earling. Bob was baptized and confirmed at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling and attended St. Joseph's Catholic School where he graduated with the class of 1947. After high school, Bob attended trade school in Chicago, IL for six months. Bob then returned to Earling where he worked for his brother Charles as an electrician for four years.

On April 26, 1951, Bob was inducted into the United States Army where he served his country during the Korean War. While home on leave, Bob was united in marriage to Mary Helen Heller, daughter of Henry and Frances Heller of Portsmouth on August 21, 1951. Bob was then sent to Korea on active duty for over 18 months where he was awarded the Korean Service Medal with three Bronze Campaign Stars, the Army Occupation Medal (Japan) and the United Nations Service Medal. Bob served his country until his honorable discharge on April 2, 1953 at Camp Carson in Colorado achieving the rank of Corporal.

When Bob returned to Earling, he and Mary purchased and operated the family business, Finken's Store, for over 35 years. While married, they were blessed with four children: Sharon, Michael, Vicki and Ann. Bob was very active in community affairs and belonged to several organizations, being a lifetime member of the American Legion Post No. 615 of Earling where he served as commander, post adjutant and finance officer for over 30 years. He was also a long-time member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 941 of Shelby County. The Knights of Columbus organization was very near and dear to Bob as he was a lifetime and very active member of the Knights of Columbus Council 1741 of Earling and the Luke E. Hart Assembly #227 and he also served as the Grand Knight for the Golden Jubilee in 1963. He was a member of the Business Men's Club where he served as president and received the Businessman of the Year award. He was also a volunteer of the Earling Fire and Rescue, Scout Master, and an officer of the Parish Council.

Bob will always be remembered as having a great sense of humor; always considered himself a positive thinker and loved his wife and family dearly. He also enjoyed having coffee with his friends every morning, playing cards, golfing and telling jokes.

Bob died on September 10, 2018 surrounded by his loving wife and family, having attained the age of 89 years, six months and 24 days. In addition to his parents, Bob was preceded in death by his son Michael Finken; brothers: Cyril, Charles and Jack Finken and his sister Mariella Kramer.

Bob is survived by his wife of 67 years, Mary Finken of Earling; his daughters: Sharon and her husband Bob Kirschbaum of Sheldon; Vicki and her husband Duane Gall of LaVista, NE; Ann and her husband Chuck King of Omaha, NE; daughter-in-law Brenda (Halvorsen) Finken of Apple Valley, MN; 13 grandchildren; four great grandchildren; nieces and nephews; other relatives and many friends.

A 10:30 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated by Rev. Wayne Gubbels on Friday, September 14, 2018 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling. Stephen Kirschbaum, Aaron Gall, Michael Kirschbaum, Isaac Finken, Nicholas Finken, Jonathan King, John Finken, David King, and Tanner Finken served as casket bearers. Military Honors were provided by Earling American Legion Post No. 615 at St. Joseph's Cemetery in Earling.

Pauley Jones Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Pauley Jones
FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION

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