

## Kevin Holtz, 50

July 16, 1957 - Oct. 9, 2007

**WALNUT** - Kevin Lee Holtz was born July 16, 1957, in Harlan, son of Raymond and Marian (Jens) Holtz, and was one of five children in his family. He was baptized and confirmed at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Avoca. He attended school in Avoca and graduated from AvoHa High School in 1975. He then attended Iowa State University, graduating in 1979 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Mechanization. He was also an Eagle Scout. Kevin was employed by the Avoca Alfalfa Mill during the summer while he was attending college and also worked for area farmers. After college he was the manager of a sheep and dairy farm near Brayton. He then worked with a hog confinement operation outside Walnut. He worked with American Builders out of Atlantic, and weekends at a hog confinement near Wiota. In addition, he sold Mormon Feed before joining Glacier Engine Bearings in 1992, which is now Mahle Engine Components in Atlantic.



Kevin married Ellen Russmann April 30, 1983, at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Walnut, where he later became a member. Ellen and Kevin were the parents of six children: Erik Ray, Kerrie Sue, Ethan James, Kelsi Lea, Erran Jerald and Elija Richard. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus of Avoca and Walnut and was very active with the Boy Scouts and 4-H. He died Oct. 9, 2007, at the Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, NE, at age 50 years, two months and 23 days.

Kevin was preceded in death by his parents; two sons, Erik and Ethan Holtz; a sister, Linda Holtz; and a brother, Craig Holtz. He is survived by his wife, Ellen Holtz of Walnut; his children, Kerrie Holtz, and her significant other Curtis Tate, and Kelsi Holtz, all of Omaha, NE; Erran Holtz and Elija Holtz, both of Walnut; his brother, Loren Holtz of Kansas City, MO; his sister, Sharon Hoffmann (Jerry) of Panama; his father-in-law, Dick Russmann of Avoca; and his mother-in-law, Geraldine Russmann of Bellevue, NE; his grandmother-in-law, Ruth Hicks of Avoca; sisters and brothers-in-law, Judy (Steve) Griffin of Avoca; Laurie (Tim) McNeil of Omaha; James Russmann (Patricia) of Avoca; Tom Russmann (Marita) of Avoca; Chris Russmann (Kristie) of Glenwood; aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, his special neighbor, Thelma Ambrose, and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held Oct. 13, 2007, at the St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Walnut, with Father John Frost celebrating. Honorary casket bearers were Steve Griffin, Tim McNeil, Stan Jens, Dick Holtz, Keith Holtz, Richard Kuhr, Jeff Krueger, Denny Bladt, and Steven Jens. Casket bearers were Chris Russmann, Jerry Hoffmann, James Russmann, Dave Schwarte, Tom Russmann, and Curt Jens. Burial was in the Graceland Cemetery, Avoca. Pauley Jones Funeral Home in Avoca, in charge of arrangements.