

Alfred Hughes, 65

July 10, 1949 - Feb. 17, 2015

PORTSMOUTH — Alfred John Hughes was born on July 10, 1949 to Glenn and Bernadine Hughes in Akron. He was baptized and confirmed at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Akron where he remained a member for twenty years. He attended Akron Community grade school and graduated with the Class of 1968 from Alcester High School in Alcester, SD. He completed a mechanical school course in 1969.

June 21, 1969, he was united in marriage to Henrietta "Hank" Leenders at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in his hometown. They moved northwest of Portsmouth, where Al began farming on the Hughes homestead later that year. He worked in Hide Cellar for Spencer Foods in Oakland Iowa from 1971 to 1985. In 1986, he started working at Harlan Pork Producers for one year and worked at Packers Hide from 1988 until his death. He was a hard worker and thoroughly enjoyed farming, raising livestock, and his job at Packers Hide but his greatest love was his children, grandchildren, and spending time with his family. He enjoyed nothing more than to take his grandchildren fishing, going to rodeos, tractor pulls, and attending their sporting events. He never turned down an opportunity to give them rides around the farm or around the section on the 4-wheeler. Al took great pride in his sweet corn patch and supplied his family, friends, and neighbors with sweet corn all summer. He was a fundamental piece of the parish picnic for over thirty years by grilling the hamburgers and polish sausages. Al lost his battle with cancer on Tuesday, February 17, 2015 at his home in Portsmouth. He had attained the age of sixty-five years, seven months, and seven days.

Al was preceded in death by his parents; brothers Ronald, Richard, Samuel, and William Hughes; sister Diane Otten; and grandson Andrew. He is survived by his wife of forty-five years Hank Hughes of Portsmouth; children: Shelley and her husband Paul Schmitz of Council Bluffs, Cindy and her husband Jay Schechinger of Westphalia, Todd Hughes of Persia, and Angie Hughes of Council Bluffs; grandchildren: Catie, Spencer, Ella, Audrey, Jamie, Bobbie, Abbie, John, Tyler, Tristen, and Allie; sisters: Kathleen Renken of Brunsville, Aldine and her husband Richard Meinen of Katy, TX, Maryilyn and her husband Larry Tucker of Bolingbrook, IL, Connie Boettger and her companion Don Thoms of LeMars, Glenda and her husband Dennis Dunaway of Portsmouth, and Patricia and her husband Mike Toben of Utica, SD; brother James Hughes and his wife Julia of Alcester, SD; sisters-in-law Sylvia Hughes of Akron and Donna Hughes of LeMars; brother-in-law Junior Otten of Spink, SD; other family members and many friends.

Rev. David Smith, S. J. celebrated the 11:00 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial on Saturday, February 21, 2015 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Portsmouth. Denise Reinig accompanied St. Mary's Choir. Deb Muell was the musician at the wake service on Friday, February 20, 2015. Serving as casket bearers were Ken Mirts, Jack Ellis, Dave Hughes, J. D. Tucker, Ricky Hughes, and Glenn Hughes. Burial was held at St. Mary's Cemetery at Portsmouth.



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