

William B. Leuschen, 74

Oct. 4, 1920 - Mar. 21, 1995

Panama - William "Bill" Benedict Leuschen, son of Benedict and Rose (Langenfeld) Leuschen, was born Oct. 4, 1920, on a farm near Westphalia. He was baptized at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Westphalia and was confirmed at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling where he attended grade school. In 1938, he graduated President and Valedictorian of his class from St. Boniface High School in Westphalia. During WWII, he served his country in the Civilian Conservation Corp. After the death of his father in 1941, he moved with his mother and sister to Defiance.

Dec. 28, 1944, he married Mildred Josephine Schwery, daughter of Melchoir and Theresa (Klein) Schwery, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Panama where they remained faithful members. They became the parents of fourteen children. After their marriage, they farmed near Defiance and Panama before moving to their present farm in Harrison County in 1958. In 1980, he retired from farming and became an adjuster for Farmers' Mutual Hail and was recently recognized with a gold watch for 15 years of dedicated service. He died March 21, 1995, after a brief battle against lung cancer at age 74 years, five months and 17 days. In addition to St. Mary's Catholic Church, he was a member of the Knights of Columbus, Earling Council #1741, St. Mary's Church Choir and the Hemlock Card Club.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two children, Marla Rose Oct. 29, 1966, and Michael Lewis June 11, 1978. He is survived by his wife, Millie and remaining children - Ronald (Evelyn)



of Pittsburg, CA; Dennis (Elizabeth) of Newburg, MO; William (Linda) of Silvis, IL; Suella (Dean) Hagar of Shawnee, KS; Patricia (John) Hruska of Omaha, NE; Paul (Michelle) of Dublin, OH; Bruce (Kelly) of Decorah; Faye (Rick) French of Mo. Valley; Annette (Peter) Dunlop of Woodbine; Carol (Mike) Robertson stationed in Italy; Bennett (Lana) of Co. Bluffs; and Betty of Co. Bluffs; 43 grandchildren; a sister Virginia Cotten of Omaha, NE and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held ~~Mar~~ ^{Mar} 24, 1995 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Panama with Rev. Don Daleke celebrating and Rev. Eugene Klein and Rev. James Chiaro concelebrating. Burial was held at St. Mary's cemetery in Panama, with Paul, Bennett, Bruce, Ronald, William and Dennis Leuschen casket bearers. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.