

**Owen Langenfeld, 86**

Feb. 17, 1927 - July 7, 2013

**HARLAN** — Owen Joseph Langenfeld, son of Herman H. and Magdalen K. (Heese) Langenfeld, was born on February 17, 1927, in Earling. He was baptized and confirmed at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Earling and graduated from St. Joseph Catholic Schools. After graduation, he worked for his parents in their meat market and restaurant. Later Owen went to work as a meat cutter at Swanson Grocery Store in Harlan. He continued working there until he purchased the locker plant in Earling in 1960.



October 15, 1961, Owen was united in marriage to Janice M. Gross Stessman at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Harlan. Having married Janice, he took on the responsibility of helping Janice raise her three children by adopting them and caring for them as if they were his own. They later had a son together to complete their family. Owen and Janice made their home in Harlan and Owen made the daily drive to Earling to run his business there. Many of those days, he transported the medications that were needed at the Little Flower Haven from the pharmacies in Harlan. In 1980, Owen sold Langenfeld Lockers to the Gross family and went to work with his son, Phil, at Pauley Funeral Home. He continued to work there until the 1990s when his battle with Parkinson's disease started. After his wife Janice died on October 14, 2002, Owen continued to live at home until December of 2007, when he became a resident of the Little Flower Haven Nursing Home in Earling. Owen was a member of St. Michael's Catholic Church in Harlan, where he served as a lector, usher and on the Parish Council. He was also a member of the 3rd Degree Knights of Columbus Earling Council No. 1741 of Earling, and a member of the Fourth Degree, Luke E. Hart General Assembly, Knights of Columbus and its Chalice Club of Defiance. He was a past Grand Knight of the 3rd Degree and past Faithful Navigator of the 4th Degree. He was also a past member of the Earling Commercial. For over 40 years, Owen enjoyed creating impressive exterior Christmas decoration displays at his Harlan home. Owen J. Langenfeld died on Sunday, July 7, 2013, at Little Flower Haven Nursing Home in Earling, having reached the age of 86 years, 4 months, and 20 days.

Owen was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Janice Langenfeld; one sister, Joan Langenfeld; and one brother, Mark Langenfeld. He is survived by one daughter, Kaleen (Paul) Johnston of Manassas, VA; three sons, Phillip (Julie) Langenfeld of St. Cloud, MN, Eugene (Nan) Langenfeld of Omaha, NE, and Glen (Mary) Langenfeld of Bellevue, NE; 12 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; three sisters, Ruth Haberkorn of Long Island, NY, Edna Finken (Kenny) Schafer of Earling, and Neil Coenen of Omaha, NE; three brothers, Mike (Phyllis) Langenfeld of Omaha, NE, Vern (Carolyn) Langenfeld of Saint Louis, MO, and Gail (Pauline) Langenfeld of Hartland, WI; one sister-in-law, Helen Langenfeld of Earling; nieces and nephews; and other relatives and friends.

A wake service with Knights of Columbus honors was held on Thursday, July 11, 2013, at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Harlan, with Deacon Pat Davitt officiating. Mass of Christian Burial was held on Friday, July 12, 2013, at St. Michael's Catholic Church, with Msgr. Gerald J. Stessman, Fr. John Frost, and Fr. Chris Fontanini officiating.

Kate Kohorst and Maryalyce Dotzler served as musicians. Casket bearers were Whitney Moore, Ryan Moore,

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JOHANNSEN**

Dean Langenfeld, Arriane Graham, Robert Langenfeld, and Alexander Langenfeld. Burial was in St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery in Earling. Condolences may be left online at [www.burmeisterjohannsen.com](http://www.burmeisterjohannsen.com).

**J** FUNERAL HOME  
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