

Martin "Marty" Mages, 71

Aug. 24, 1935 - March 29, 2007

PANAMA – Martin "Marty" Louis Mages was born Aug. 24, 1935, in Panama, to Louis and Anna (Arkfeld) Mages. Marty was baptized and confirmed at St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church in Panama and attended St. Mary's Catholic School through the tenth grade. Marty started his farming career at the age of fifteen due to the ill health of his father.

Three years later, Aug. 26, 1953, he married Alva Munchrath at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling. Eight children were born to this union: Robert, Marge, Jeanie, Betty, Karen, Don, Joe, and Susie. He continued on the family farm where he retired in 2001. In 1968, the family formed a country band, "The Martin Family". Marty was a great musician and mastered many different instruments, his favorites being steel guitar and the accordion. They performed together for several years throughout the Midwest.

In 1960, Marty launched his own trucking business hauling farm commodities and livestock. He expanded the business in 1973 when he became a grain dealer, incorporated in 1983, and continued trucking after the farm sale in August of 2001. He died at Myrtue Medical Center March 29, 2007, at age seventy-one years, seven months, and five days.

Marty was preceded in death by his parents, Louis and Anna Mages. He is survived by his wife of fifty-three years, Alva Mages of Panama; his children: Robert (Lori) Mages of Panama, Marge (Rod) Bach of Council Bluffs, Jeanie and her husband Scott Rowell of Council Bluffs, Betty (Steve) Klein of Earling, Karen (Major Bill) Holt of Moody Air Force Base in Valdosta, GA, Don (Darlene) Mages of Panama, Joe Mages of Panama, and Susie (Darren) Thomsen of Olathe, KS; twenty-one grandchildren; ten great-grandchildren and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held March 31, 2007, at St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church in Panama, with Rev. John Dorton officiating. Honorary casket bearers were Robert J. Hodapp, James Schwery, Sr., Elmer Schwery, Dusty Mages, Marvin Thraen, Joe Reiser, and Leon Schmidt. Casket bearers were Eric Bach, Lt. Jason Habrouck, Randy Mages, Joshua Klein, Christina Coniglia, Justin Thomsen, Stephen Mages, and Matthew Mages. Pauley Jones Funeral Home in charge of arrangements

