

Sylvester (Slim) Fred Michels, 87

Dec. 31, 1912 - Oct. 2, 2000

PANAMA - Sylvester Fred Michels, son of Peter and Loretta (Earhart) Michels, was born on a farm near Defiance, Dec. 31, 1912. He was baptized and confirmed at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance. Slim served his country in the U.S. Army during WWII, serving in Europe, Africa and the Middle East, where he received a Bronze Battle Star.

Jan. 15, 1946, he married Marcella Goeser at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Panama. Five children were born to this union. They farmed two and one-half miles south of Panama until his retirement in 1974 at age 62. Since that time he made his home in Panama. He was a member of the Panama American Legion Post No. 601. He died Oct. 2, 2000, at age 87 years, nine months and one day.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Marcella; two sons, Danny and John; his brothers, Gregory, Jerome and Charles; and sisters, Leona, Bernice and Gladys. He is survived by his children, Joseph (Pat) Michels of Panama; Linda (Duane) Reinig of Portsmouth and Peg Webber of Molalla, OR; nine grandchildren; one great grandchild; his sister, Evelyn Kington of Irwin; and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held Oct. 5, 2000, at St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church in Panama, with Rev. Michael Peters celebrant. Burial was in the St. Mary's Cemetery, Panama, with Chad Reinig, Marvin Sonntag, Jim Michels, Danny Michels, Kent Andersen, Larry Kington, Brian Reinig and Brian Wageman casket bearers. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

