

## Anton "Tony" Rau, 99

**EARLING** - Anton "Tony" Rau, son of Michael and Mary (Lockman) Rau was born on a farm northeast of Westphalia, Jan. 20, 1889. He died at the Little Flower Haven in Earling on March 8, 1988 at age 99 years, one month and 17 days. He was baptized, received his First Communion and was confirmed at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Westphalia. He attended first grade at St. Joseph's School in Earling and then attended public school and St. Boniface School in Westphalia. He helped on the family farm until entering the U.S. Army on July 26, 1918, where he served his country during WW I in France. After his honorable discharge on Aug. 8, 1919, he returned to the family farm.

On Jan. 20, 1921, he married Veronica Kloewer at Earling. They were the parents of eight children. He farmed southeast of Earling until 1957, when he retired from farming. After the death of Veronica on Oct. 5, 1971, he continued to live on the farm until 1980, when he became a resident of the Little Flower Haven in Earling. He was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling; a charter member of the Earling American Legion Post # 615; and a charter member of the Knights of Columbus, Earling Council No. 1741.

In addition to his parents and wife, he was preceded in death by an infant son, Gerald; a granddaughter, Gerarda Gaul; a grandson, Thomas Leinen; one brother, Gilbert; and four sisters, Frances, Anna, Margaret and Eleanor. He is survived by four sons, Harold of Defiance; Joseph of Earling; Goar of Elgin, OR; and Howard of St. Louis, MO; three daughters, Mildred (Mrs Roman) Gaul of Earling; Therese (Mrs Art) Leinen of Co. Bluffs; and Mary (Mrs Don) Carroll of Omaha, NE; 33 grandchildren; 24 great-grandchildren; two brothers, Frank of Westphalia and Ray of Harlan; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was con-celebrated March 11, 1988 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Earling, with Rev. Greg Leach as the celebrant. Con-celebrating priests were Rev. Larry Beeson, Rev. Garry Culver and Rev. James Kleffman. Burial was in St. Joseph's cemetery with Joe Gaul, Don Gaul, Steve Rau, Ed Carroll, Bill Leinen, Dennis Rau, Jim Carroll and Michael Gaul serving as casket bearers. Pauley Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.