

Leonard Rau, 74

May 12, 1932 - Feb. 22, 2007

PORTSMOUTH — Leonard Louis Rau was born May 12, 1932, to Gilbert and Lidwina (Eisterhold) Rau in Earling. He was baptized and confirmed at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Westphalia. He attended school at St. Boniface Catholic School in Westphalia.

Leonard married Alice Schleimer May 26, 1955, at St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church in Panama. There were nine children born to this union: Connie, Joan, Ronda, Gary, Jolene, Bob, Craig, Leslie, and Keri. He and Alice raised their family and farmed near Portsmouth. In 1967, he bought G & R Feed and Grain and moved the family to Portsmouth in 1968. Leonard served on the town council as well as the Portsmouth Centennial Committee and the Portsmouth Volunteer Fire Department. He coached Little League and was involved in various other groups and organizations. He retired from G & R Feed and Grain in 1997. He died Feb. 22, 2007, at Myrtue Medical Center at age 74 years, nine months, and 10 days.

Leonard is preceded in death by his parents, Gilbert and Lidwina Rau; his son, Gary Rau; his brother, Mike Rau; and sisters, Marie Grote and Lita Rau. He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Alice Rau of Portsmouth; his children, Connie (Larry) Mick of Omaha, NE; Joan (Dan) Schechinger of Harlan; Ronda (Randy) Schaben of Portsmouth; Jolene Jacobs of Omaha, NE; Bob (Donna) Rau of Lincoln, NE; Craig Rau and his friend, Amy Schafer of Portsmouth; Leslie (Jamie) Goetz of Defiance; and Keri (Gary) Holstein of Lincoln, NE; brothers and sisters, Dorothy Gaul of Earling; Leo (Jane) Rau of Omaha, NE; Zita Bruck of Earling; Alma (Paul) Bissen of Harlan; Jeanette (Dick) Mikels of Portsmouth; Martha Mumm of Harlan; Mervin (Nels) Nelson of Kerrville, TX; Verla (Charles) Mumm of Dunlap; Patricia Kuether of Pierce, NE; Gilbert Rau Jr. (Mary Anne) of Lander, WY; and Judy (Richard) Jones of Omaha, NE; 18 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; nieces, nephews, and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held Feb. 27, 2007, with Rev. John Dorton officiating at St. Mary Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church in Portsmouth. Honorary casket bearers were Dave Schechinger, Dallas Schechinger, Lisa Schechinger, Stephany Coenen, Becky Tobin, and Christen Mick. Casket bearers were Connie Mick, Joan Schechinger, Ronda Schaben, Jolene Jacobs, Bob Rau, Craig Rau, Leslie Goetz, and Keri Holstein. Burial was at St. Mary's Cemetery in Portsmouth. Pauley Jones Funeral Home in charge of arrangements

