

Nicholas Schmitz, 79

April 8, 1914 - Feb. 8, 1994

Westphalia - Nicholas Peter Schmitz, son of Peter and Katheryn (Windeshausen) Schmitz was born April 8, 1914 on a farm near Panama. He died Feb. 8, 1994 at the Jennie Edmundson Hospital in Co. Bluffs at age 79 years and ten months. He was baptized and confirmed at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Panama and grew to adulthood on the family farm.

June 18, 1935, he married Marcella "Sally" Pauley at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Panama. Eleven children were born to this union. After their marriage, they began farming southeast of Panama. Two years later, they moved to a farm south of Panama. July 8, 1940, their crops were completely hailed out, and the only crop they raised that year was carrots. In 1945, he moved his family to a farm near Westphalia, and in 1950 purchased the farm from his father. This has been their home since that time. In 1961, he and Marcella took their first vacation, a train trip to CA and the train derailed in the Sierra Mountains. He was a member of St. Boniface Catholic Church in Westphalia. He was also a member of the Westphalia Fire Department for twenty years, the Credit Union Board for twelve years, and also a board member of the Little Flower Haven in Earling.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a sister, Louise Pauley and three brothers, Msgr. Peter Schmitz, William and John Schmitz. Surviving is his wife, Marcella "Sally" Schmitz of Westphalia; his children - Valerian "Larry" (Victoria) Schmitz of Westphalia; Cletus (Janice) Schmitz of Harlan; Norman (Gloria) Schmitz and Roger (Julia "Judy") Schmitz of Westphalia; Russell (Pauline) Schmitz of Co. Bluffs; Marvin (Joan) Schmitz of Harlan; Linda (James) Bender of Toledo, OH; Velma (Bruce) Arkfeld and Jim (Vicki) Schmitz of Defiance; Doris (Lenny) Schmitz of Harlan and Nancy (Tom) DeRuby of Bellevue, NE; 46 grandchildren; 17 great grandchildren; his brothers and sisters - Joseph (Laurina) Schmitz of Portsmouth; Sr. Maristelle Schmitz, O.S.B., Colorado Springs, CO; Vincent (Delores) Schmitz of Panama; Catherine (Jerome) Croghan and Margaret (Joe) Croghan of Manning; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was concelebrated Feb. 11, 1994 at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Westphalia with Rev. Thomas Crowley celebrant. Concelebrating was Msgr. Edward Kelly, Rev. Ken Gross, Rev. Paul Monahan, Rev. Donald Bruck and Rev. Don Daleke. Burial was in St. Boniface cemetery in Westphalia with Leonard Kay, Leonard C. Rosmann, Byron Jensen, Michael Goetz, Roman Schmitz, Harold Schulte and Lawrence Petsche honorary casket bearers. Casket bearers were Norman Schmitz, James Schmitz, Roger Schmitz, Cletus Schmitz and Marvin Schmitz. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.