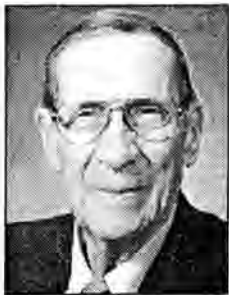


## Joseph L. Schwarte, Sr., 94

*May 23, 1905 – Jan. 28, 2000*



**HARLAN** – Joseph Lawrence Schwarte, son of Herman Henry and Rose (Leenan) Schwarte, was born May 23, 1905, on a farm near Westphalia. When Joe was a small child his parents moved to a farm northwest of Earling, where he grew to manhood. He attended country school and St. Joseph's Catholic School in Earling. Joe received his first Holy Communion and was confirmed at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling.

He helped on the family farm until his marriage Jan. 24, 1928, to Helen Lucille Ratigan at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Panama. Thirteen children were born to this union. They lived near Earling for several years before moving to their farm near Defiance. In 1967, they retired but continued to live on the farm until 1977, when they moved to Harlan. He was a member of St. Michael's Catholic Church in Harlan. Joe died Jan. 28, 2000, at Myrtue Memorial Hospital at age 94 years, eight months and five days.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Helen, in 1985; an infant daughter; two sons, Eugene and Dwayne; grandson, Dennis Reischl; and great grandson, Caleb Reischl; his brothers, Frank, Wilford and Henry; and his sister, Quirina Bauman. He is survived by his children, Irene (Edwin) Reischl of Manning; Albert Schwarte (Gay) of Defiance; Harold Schwarte of New Hope Village, Carroll; daughter-in-law, Marilyn Schwarte of Manilla; Sister Madonna Schwarte of Omaha, NE; Sister Darlene Schwarte of Davenport; Thelma Smith of Harlan; Michael Schwarte of New Hope Village, Carroll; daughter-in-law, Glenda Hall of Defiance; Karen (Clarence) Brinker of Harlan; Richard Schwarte (Myrna) of Manilla; Joseph Schwarte (Vernita) of Defiance; 30 grandchildren and 23 great grandchildren; his brother, Isidore Schwarte (Meritta) of Harlan; his sister, Rosetta Hendricks of Harlan; and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Jan. 31, 2000, at St. Michael's Catholic Church with Rev. Howard Fitzgerald celebrant, Rev. Michael Berner and Rev. Fred Reischl concelebrants and Rev. Mr. Pat Davitt assisting. Burial was in Sts. Peter and Paul Cemetery in Defiance, with Troy Smith, Terry Schwarte, Trent Smith, Ron Reischl, Dave Schwarte, Gary Reischl, Rick Schwarte, Kevin Brinker and Doug Schwarte serving honorary casket bearers. Casket bearers were Tim Smith, Dameian Schwarte, Todd Smith, Darin Schwarte, Mike Brinker, Vernon Schwarte, John Reischl and Al Schwarte. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.