

Walter Staiert, Sr., 87

Jan. 9, 1922 - Dec. 14, 2009

HARLAN – Walter Bernard Staiert, Sr., son of John and Anna (Niehaus) Staiert, was born on January 9, 1922, on a farm southwest of Carroll. He was baptized and confirmed at St. Francis Catholic Church in Maple River and attended St. Francis Catholic Schools, Maple River Country School, and Carroll Public School. He grew to adulthood on the family farm outside of Carroll.



In 1941, Walt met Ella Mae Loeffelholz at a dance. They were married on October 10, 1945, in Mount Carmel. Ten children were born to this union: Ronald, Robert, Duane, Walt, Joseph, Ralph, Marie, Jim, Jeanne, and Joni. After their wedding, Walt and Ella Mae rented a farm southwest of Carroll where they remained until 1967 when they bought a farm southwest of Elk Horn and had a dairy where they raised cattle. Walt loved to farm, and had a great love for the land. He was always using the newest technology for conservation. In 1981, Walt retired from the dairy but continued to farm with his son, Walt Jr. When Walt wasn't busy on the farm, he was spending time with his family. He also loved to play cards, tell stories and jokes and lovingly tease his kids and grandkids. In January 2007, Walt and Ella Mae moved into Harlan. Walt was a member of St. Michael's Catholic Church in Harlan where he served on the Pastoral Council and the Parish Council. He was also a member of the Knights of Columbus, Council No. 3900 of Harlan. Walt died on Monday, December 14, 2009, at Creighton University Medical Center in Omaha, NE, having attained the age of eighty-seven years, eleven months, and five days.

Walt is preceded in death by his parents; his son, Joseph; his daughter, Joni; his siblings: Loretta Reiff, Agnes Gehling, Marita Heires, Anita Bellinghausen, Edwin Staiert, and Paul Staiert. He is survived by his wife of sixty-four years, Ella Mae, of Harlan; their children Ronald Staiert and his wife Janice of Walnut; Robert Staiert and his wife Linda of Topeka, KS; Duane Staiert and his wife Celine of Omaha, NE; Walt Staiert and his wife Laurie of Elk Horn; Ralph Staiert and his wife Wendy of Ankeny; Marie and her husband Mike Wiederin of Bedford; Jim Staiert and his wife Ana of Springfield, VA; and Jeanne and her husband Mark Eastman of Omaha, NE; nineteen grandchildren; twelve great-grandchildren; his siblings Rosina Wiederin; Hilde Bruck both of Carroll; Elmer Staiert and his wife Nets of Sac City; Henry Staiert of Fonda; Leo Staiert and his wife Alice; Ethel and her husband Raymond Reiff all of Carroll; his sisters-in-law Alice Staiert of Carroll and Harriett Staiert of Littleton, CO; nieces; nephews; other family members and many friends.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Saturday, December 19, 2009, at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Harlan with Rev. Bob Hoefler celebrating the 11:00 AM service. Interment was held at the Harlan Cemetery in with Julie Elings, Susan Petersen, Amy Rieger, Krista

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Allen, Sheila Gudenrath, Angie Pernier, Saran Staiert, Geena Staiert, Ashley Wiederin, and Rachel Eastman acting as honorary casket bearers.. Serving as casket bearers were: Mike Staiert, Richard Staiert, Mark Staiert, Matt Staiert, Connor Eastman, Scott Staiert, Mick Wiederin, Cody Wiederin, and John Staiert.

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