

## Melvin Stolz, 92

May 28, 1914 - May 16, 2007

**HARLAN** - Melvin Joseph Stolz was born May 28, 1914, to Vera (Dougal) and George Stolz, Sr. just west of Panama, in Harrison County. He was baptized at St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church in Panama, and confirmed at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance. He attended school at St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic School in Panama and continued his schooling in Defiance. He worked as a hired hand at various farms until he saved enough money to buy his first farm outside of Boone.



In May of 1940, Melvin married Marcella Scheuring at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Defiance. He served on the Co-Op Elevator Board and Farm Bureau Board for several years while in Boone. He was a long-time member of the Knights of Columbus, both third and fourth degree and served as the recording secretary for twenty years. Melvin was in the first class to become a Eucharistic Minister in 1972. He served in that capacity at the church, nursing homes, and at private homes. He farmed and raised hogs his entire life and was once awarded Swine Producer of the Year. He retired in 1976. He and Marcella moved to Harlan in 1978. Marcella died one year later.

Oct. 9, 1982, Melvin and Alice Graeve were married in St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Earling. They made their home in Harlan and became members of St. Michael's Catholic Church. Melvin loved to drive so every winter they would travel to West Virginia, Florida, Texas, Arizona, Oklahoma, and Kansas, visiting Alice's children along the way. He was admitted to Myrtue Medical Center May 16, 2007, and it was there that he died May 20, 2007, at age ninety-two years, eleven months, and twenty-two days.

Melvin was preceded in death by his parents, Vera and George Stolz, his first wife Marcella (Scheuring) Stolz, Alice's son Mark Graeve, his brothers Romaldus "Mal" Stolz, Allen Stolz, and Roman "Pat" Stolz, and his sisters Veronica Stolz and Delores Tremel. He is survived by his wife Alice (Finken) Stolz of Harlan; Alice's children: Phil Graeve (Harriett) of Defiance, Mary (Frank) Kilbarda of Courtland, MN, Ed Graeve (Mary Kay) of Denison, Ken Graeve (Dixie) of Brookfield, WI, Bob Graeve (Sue) of Omaha, NE, Neil Graeve (Jolene) of Tucson, AZ, Ann Graeve of Harlan, Pat (Joe) Michels of Panama, Kathy (Denny) Foster of Land O Lakes, FL, Teresa (Tom) Wageman of Westphalia, Rose (Dave) Schomers of Westphalia, and Jack Graeve of Des Moines; Alice's thirty-nine grandchildren and thirty-eight great-grandchildren; his brothers: Merrill Stolz of Harlan, Louis Stolz of Dunlap, and George Stolz, Jr. of Earling, his sisters: Lois Koesters of Earling and Wilma Mohr of Denison, brother-in-law John Tremel of Earling, and sister-in-law Edythe Stolz of California, nieces, nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held May 24, 2007, with Rev. Bob Hoefler officiating at St. Michael's Catholic Church. Casket bearers were Mark Kilbarda, Chad Wageman, Vince Graeve, Kevin Graeve, Dan Michels, and Matt Graeve. Burial was held at Sts. Peter and Paul Cemetery in Defiance. Pauley Jones Funeral Home in charge of arrangements