

Edward Stephany, 69

June 8, 1947 - Oct. 13, 2016

HARLAN — Edward Michael Stephany, son of William and Lorena (Mickels) Stephany, was born on June 8, 1947 in Harlan. He was baptized and confirmed at the St. Mary's of the Assumption Catholic Church in Panama and attended school at St. Mary's in Panama, St. Boniface in Westphalia and St. Peter's in Defiance.

June 24, 1967, Edward was united in marriage to Mary Musich at the St. Boniface Catholic Church in Westphalia. Five children were born to this union: Paula, Sandi, Julia, Laura and Wil.

In 1965, while working at Western Iowa Pork, Ed joined the US Army National Guard. During this time there was big strike at Iowa Pork in 1966 and he joined the picket line. His service with the US National Guard went active in April of 1968 during the Vietnam War and he was stationed in Fort Carson, CO. After returning home, Ed continued farming and drove truck for Purina Feed and Squealer Feed and he later transferred to the Squealer Research Farm. He also worked his final years at Super Sweet Inc. and Remington Seed Company before health conditions caused his retirement except for farming only part-time.

Ed enjoyed attending farm, estate and garage sales where he was able to grow his ever growing tractor collection. He also cherished his memories as a member of the "Avengers" rock-n-roll band he performed with in the 60's; his love of music; joy in raising cattle and his beloved dogs. Ed died at his home on Thursday, October 13, 2016 surrounded by his family, attaining the age of sixty-nine years, four months and five days.

Ed was preceded in death by his parents and step-father Harry Gubbels. He is survived by his wife Mary Stephany of Harlan; his children Paula Bielenberg of Harlan; Sandi and her husband Kelly Schwery of rural Westphalia; Julia Sonntag and her friend Mike Boner of Mondamin; Laura and her husband James Pearce of Kansas City, MO and Wil Stephany and his wife Denise of Omaha, NE; 15 grandchildren; 3 great-grandchildren; sisters Kathleen Kloewer of Panama; Connie and her husband Bob Easterly of Haxtun, CO; brothers Gene Stephany and his wife Diane of West Des Moines; Glen Gubbels and his wife Sharon of rural Westphalia; nieces and nephews, other family members and many friends.

An 11:00 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated by Rev. David Smith S.J. on Monday, October 17, 2016 at the St. Boniface Catholic Church in Westphalia. Jason Schmitz, Jacob Blevins, Sam Schwery, Drew Stephany and Logan Burchett served as pall bearers. Military Rites were conducted by the Defiance Westphalia American Legion Post No. 707. Burial will be held at a later date.



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