

Raymond Wingert, 87

April 8, 1917 - Aug. 30, 2004

PANAMA – Raymond John Wingert was the first child born to Henry Wingert and Martha Reinig April 8, 1917, in rural Earling. He was baptized and confirmed at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Panama.

Oct. 4, 1939 Ray married Viatora J. Schleis at St. Joseph's Church in Earling. To this union six children were born. He farmed land northeast of Panama, and ran his own threshing machine. He was manager of the Panama Telephone Company and also served as a member of the board of directors. He sold DeKalb seed corn for over 34 years. He was a member of the town council, Knights of Columbus, president of the Golden Age Club in 1982 and was a Shelby County Zoning Commissioner for 10 years. He died Aug. 30, 2004, at Little Flower Haven in Earling, at age 87 years, five months and 22 days.

In addition to his parents, Ray was preceded in death by his wife, Viatora; his sister, Agnès (Leonard) Rosmann; his brother, Leo; and his son-in-law, Donald Brokman, Jr. He is survived by his six children, Delores Brokman of Independence; Ronald (Jodie) of Panama; Alice Wingert of Pueblo, CO; Ralph (Jeannine) of Earling; Judy (Charles) Turner, Jr. of Chatsworth, CA; and Mary (Bill) Schwanz of Omaha, NE; his sister, Marie (Herb) Blum of Westphalia; brother, Anthony Wingert (Rose) of Avoca; sister-in-law, Carmella Grap of Portsmouth; 13 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held Sept. 6, 2004, at St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church in Panama, with Rev. James Brokman celebrant. Casket bearers were Neil Wingert, Barry Wingert, Larry Wingert, Robert Schleis, David Wingert, Ken Rosmann, Mark Brokman and Les Blum. Burial was in St. Mary's Cemetery in Panama, Pauley Jones Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

