

Nicholas J. Wolken - 83

Sept. 10, 1914 - May 5, 1998

HARLAN - Nicholas John Wolken, son of Charley and Josephine (List) Wolken, was born Sept. 10, 1914 on the family farm near Scipio, KS. He was baptized and confirmed at the St. Boniface Catholic Church in Scipio, KS and attended St. Boniface Catholic School, also in Scipio.

April 14, 1942, he married Hildaan Weins at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Westphalia. To this union eight children were born. After they were married, he farmed for Anastasi's, later moving into Harlan where he worked at Sparky's Service Station for two years. The family then moved to a farm near Elk Horn, and farmed until 1962. He worked interstate bridge construction and for Harlan Contracting until he retired at age 68. Nick and Hildaan made their home in Harlan in 1979. He was a member of St. Michael's Catholic Church in Harlan and a 63 year member of the Knights of Columbus, Harlan Council No. 3900. He died May 5, 1998, at the Myrtue Memorial Hospital at age 83 years, seven months and 25 days.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two grandsons, Jason Schmitz and Tyler Wolken; his brothers Gregory, Leonard, Martin, Luke, Gilbert, Arny, Hubert and an infant sister. Survivors include his wife Hildaan of Harlan; his children, Gary Wolken (Doris) of Des Moines; Linda (Fred) Olsen of Harlan; Nancy (Larry) Schmitz of LaVista, NE; Daniel Wolken (Vicky) of Sierra Vista, AZ; Patricia (Jerry) Schomers of Omaha; Jill (John) Blackford of Burlington Junction, MO; David Wolken (Amy) of Sierra Vista, AZ and Charles Wolken (Ann) of Harlan; his brothers and sisters Mary Scheckel of Kansas; Elizabeth Roecker of Kansas; Ed Wolken of Minnesota; Hilda Wolken of Kansas; Denis Wolken of Kansas and Herman Wolken of Nevada; 14 grandchildren, two step-grandchildren - Trent Wolken, Chad and Jeremy Olsen, Jared and Amanda Schmitz, Joe Wolken, Laura, Matt and Nick Schomers, Josh and Kate Wolken, Luke, Nicole and Jana Wolken, Ben and Brooke Blackford and other relatives.

A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated May 9, 1998 at St. Michael's Catholic Church with Rev. Richard Gubbels celebrant. Burial was in the Harlan cemetery with Chad Olsen, Josh Wolken, Joe Wolken, Trent Wolken, Luke Wolken, Jeremy Olsen, Jared Schmitz and Matt Schomer casket bearers. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.