

John M. Bissen, 86

Earling — John Matt Bissen, son of John and Mary Gaul Bissen, was born on Feb. 19, 1894 on a farm south of Earling. There he attended the rural school. He was baptized and confirmed at St. Joseph's church in Earling. He spent his early years helping on the family farm.

On Jan. 18, 1916, John married Lena Eribacher in St. Joseph's church. Four children were born to this union. They farmed on the same farm as John's parents had until he retired in 1949. After retiring they moved into Earling. On Jan. 18, 1980, they celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary. They recently became residents of Little Flower Haven Nursing Home.

He was a member of St. Joseph's church, Knights of Columbus Council No. 1741 and Golden Circle Senior Citizens club of Earling. He died at Myrtue Memorial hospital on Tuesday, Sept. 2, 1980, at age 86 years, 6 months and 13 days.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by four brothers - Nick, Joe, Jake and Msgr. Peter Bissen and two sisters - Kate Esser and Lena Jacoby. Survivors include his wife Lena of Earling; two sons - Urban of Chandler, Ariz., and Gerald of Earling; two daughters - Carmelita (Mrs Charles) Flickinger of Greenfield, and Marcella (Mrs William) Smith of Earling; 26 grandchildren and 26 great-grandchildren; one brother, Paul of Dunlap and one sister, Barbara Frank of Earling and other relatives.

A Concenebrated Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Joseph's church in Earling, on Friday, Sept. 5, 1980, with Rev. Jon Kautzky as celebrant and Rev. Ed Scheuring and Rev. Lewis Scheuring as concelebrants. Burial was in St. Joseph's cemetery with John Flickinger, Richard Flickinger, Bill Smith, Chuck Smith, Bob Bissen and Jim Bissen as pallbearers.