



THE LIFE STORY OF — **Mike Blum**

PANAMA — Mike Blum, son of Michael and Catherine Reilander Blum, was born on a farm near Westphalia on Febr. 4, 1891. He died at Myrtue Memorial hospital in Harlan, on Febr. 1, 1977, just three days before his 86th birthday. He was baptized and confirmed at St. Boniface Catholic church in Westphalia. At the age of three, he moved with his parents to a farm near Panama, where he grew to adulthood. On Febr. 3, 1915, he married Gertrude Nollen at St. Mary's Catholic church in Panama. Five children were born to this union. After their marriage, Mr and Mrs Blum farmed near Panama. After Mrs Blum's death on June 18, 1968, Mike continued to make his home on the farm until 1970 when he became a resident of the Little Flower Haven in Earling. This has been his home since that time. Mike was a long time member of St. Mary's church in Panama and had been an enthusiastic participant in parish activities. He was a member of the Holy Name Society of St. Mary's church.

In addition to his parents and his wife, he was preceded in death by two grandchildren; one great-grandchild, a brother, Joseph Blum; and by three sisters - Catherine Goetzinger, Sister M. Antilia, and Annie Kwapiszeski. Survivors include four daughters - Helen (Mrs Neil Sternberg) of Portsmouth, Mildred (Mrs Vearl Chamberlain), Marcella (Mrs Larry Finken) and Bernadine (Mrs Don Leuschen) of Panama; a son Mike Blum Jr. of Panama, 30 grandchildren and 28 great-grandchildren; by five sisters - Sister Margaret Blum of Omaha, Nebr., Lena Blum of Earling, Mrs Clara Lefeber and Mrs Chris Schoemann both of Portsmouth and Mary Katzer of Omaha; four brothers - Peter Blum of Westphalia, Benedict Blum and Chris Blum Sr., both of Panama and John Blum of Earling; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

A Concelebrated Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Mary's church in Panama on Friday, Febr. 4, 1977 with Rev Robert Schoemann, nephew of Woodbine as celebrant, Rev. David Fenelon of Panama as homilist, Rev. Fred P. Reischl of Audubon; Rev. Donald Bruck of Defiance and Rev. Edward R. Kelly of Portsmouth, as concelebrants. Burial was in St. Mary's cemetery with Tom Blum, Mike Blum, Dean Finken, Doug Leuschen, John Chamberlain, Jerry Chamberlain, Randy Chamberlain and Neil Sternberg Jr., serving as pallbearers.