

Phil J. McDermott, 15

PORTSMOUTH — Philip Joseph McDermott, son of Paul and Charlotte (Kleffman) McDermott, was born in Council Bluffs, on March 17, 1962. He was baptized at the Holy Family Catholic church in Council Bluffs. At the age of 4, Phil moved with his parents to a farm near Portsmouth, and this has been his home since that time. He received his First Communion and was confirmed at St. Mary's church in Portsmouth. He attended the Portsmouth-Panama grade school and had completed a year at the Harlan Jr. high school, where he was active in the wrestling program. Phil played center field on the Portsmouth Cubs baseball team and also participated in CYO and 4-H. He died at Mercy hospital in Co. Bluffs on Sept. 7, 1977 at age 15 years, 5 months and 20 days.

Phil was preceded in death by his grandparents. His survivors include his parents, Mr and Mrs Paul McDermott of Portsmouth; a brother, Richard and two sisters, Dianne and Ann Marie, all at home and other relatives.

A Concelebrated Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Mary's church in Portsmouth on Friday, Sept. 9, 1977, with Rev. James Kleffman as celebrant, Rev. Edward R. Kelly as homilist and Rev. Richard Gubbels, Rev. Gerald Stessman, Rev. Vincent Rosonke, Rev. Fred P. Reischl and Rev. William Kleffman as concelebrants. Burial was in St. Mary's cemetery with Leo Kleffman, Dean Lefeber, Mike Kleffman, Paul Kleffman, Bernard Kleffman and Douglas Schueller serving as pallbearers.